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Report: Mossad hoping for comeback with Saddam hit

By DOUGLAS DAVIS

LONDON – A five-year-old plan to kill Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has been revived by the Mossad, which is anxious to reestablish its credentials after the attempt on the life of Hamas official Khaled Mashaal in Jordan last month.

The plan, according to the London-based weekly newsletter *Foreign Report*, is based on an operation that was aborted after the Tze'elim-2 accident in 1992, in which six soldiers were killed during a live-fire dress-rehearsal on the eve of the mission. The newsletter reports that Mossad executives are confident that their information is as good as ever.

The newsletter quotes a "well placed security source in Tel Aviv" as saying the commandos have already been told to carry out a feasibility study along the lines of the 1992 plan. "But our source warns that if this operation fails, there could almost be a war, because Israel would have to engage half its air force to bring the commandos home."

See SADDAM, Page 18

Reform to vote on gay, mixed marriages today

By MARILYN HENRY

DALLAS – Acknowledging there may be a price to pay for its position, the Reform movement is to vote today on two resolutions that are certain to aggravate efforts to find common ground with the Orthodox establishment.

"We believe what we believe," said Rabbi Eric Yoffie, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, the synagogue arm of the Reform movement, at its biennial convention in Dallas.

See REFORM, Page 13



Mazal tov
Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai stands under the wedding canopy last night with his bride, Kochava Shimshi, as Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak lends his support, at Mordechai's home in Motza Illit. (Flash 90, courtesy of 'Ma'ariv')

US-Iraq tensions flare

WASHINGTON (Reuters) – The US yesterday refused to rule out military action against Iraq, saying Baghdad had "made a mistake" by turning away two American members of a UN weapons inspection team.

State Department spokesman James Rubin, asked if a military response to the Iraqi action was a possibility, said: "This is a very serious matter and we are not ruling any option out at this time."

UK: Don't rule out attack, Page 8

Iraq, which announced on Wednesday that it would bar US members of UNSCOM, a UN commission overseeing demolition of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, turned back two American members of an UNSCOM team that flew in from Bahrain yesterday.

"Iraq has made the mistake of trying to interfere with the business of the United Nations special commission," Rubin told a news briefing. "This is not an attack on the United States personnel. This is an attack on the very fundamentals of the UN system."

American UN envoy Bill Richardson called Iraq's action "very disturbing."

The US refusal to rule out military action followed similar statements by Britain and France.

The three countries spearheaded a coalition which drove Iraqi invasion forces out of Kuwait in the 1991 Gulf war.

Pentagon spokesman Ken Bacon refused to discuss the use of military force.

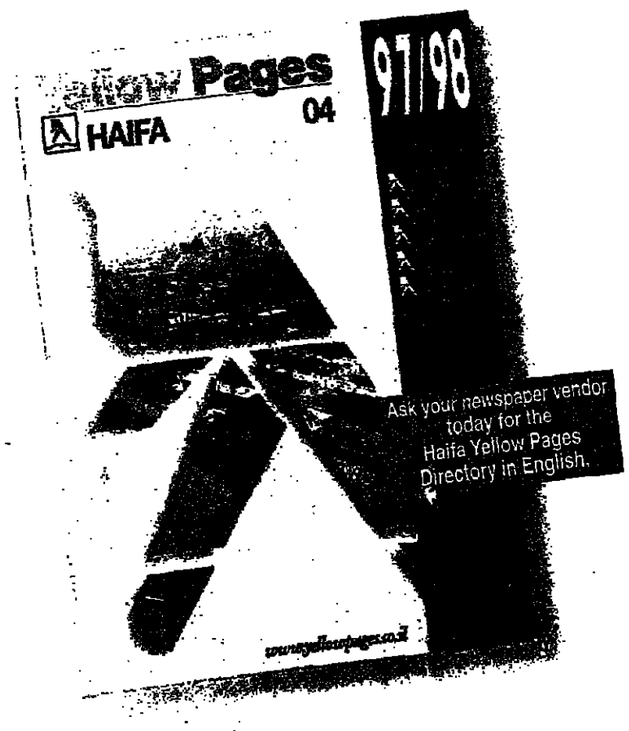
"This right now is a dispute between Iraq and the UN, and the Security Council is figuring out how to respond to it. We are working with the Security Council," he told reporters.

See IRAQ, Page 18

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NEWS

in brief

High school pupils continue strike

Tenth and 11th grade high school pupils across the nation are to stay away from classes again today to protest the continued cancellation of school trips due to a dispute between the Secondary Schools Teachers Association and the Education Ministry. They have vowed to continue their fight by striking different parts of the country this coming week.

The pupils are protesting the cancellation of annual outings, other school trips, and programs designed to prepare them for army service.

The teachers union is refusing to allow teachers to accompany the trips because the Education Ministry will not pay them to do so. *Aryeh Dean Cohen*

Man remanded for rape

Meir Filo, 33, of Eli, who is suspected of raping a minor in Kamei Shomron nine years ago, was remanded for six days by Kfar Sava Magistrate's Court yesterday. Judea and Samaria Police spokesman Opher Sivan said the girl, who was 15 at the time, only informed police of the rape this January. Filo, he said, had confessed. Sivan said the court hearing ordered a blackout on all details relating to the woman's identity and place of residence. *Margot Dudkevitch*

Netanyahu condemns political killings

Only weeks after the Mossad tried to assassinate Hamas leader Khaled Mashaal, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said yesterday that he is against political killings under any circumstances. "It is forbidden to murder, it is forbidden to murder political leaders, and it doesn't matter who," he said in a speech to business leaders in Tel Aviv.

Netanyahu was reacting to a recent poll which showed surprising support among Israeli youths for the 1995 assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, and it was clear that his comments did not refer to Israel's longstanding policy of tracking down and killing terrorist leaders. *AP*

Drivers must use headlights on intercity roads

Beginning tomorrow, motorists will be required to drive with their headlights on while traveling between cities. The regulation is designed to improve a driver's ability to spot another vehicle in the winter months, especially on days with inclement weather conditions. Public vehicles (such as buses and taxicabs), as well as motorcycles and trucks, are required to utilize headlights on all roads, until March 31, when winter driving regulations end. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Winning cards and numbers

In yesterday's first daily Chance drawing, the winning cards were the queen of spades, 8 of hearts, 8 of diamonds and 7 of clubs. In the second drawing, the winning cards were 8 of spades, 8 of hearts, queen of diamonds and queen of clubs.

In yesterday's weekly Payis Hazak drawing ticket number 113286 won NIS 1 million, while ticket number 517583 won the car.

Tickets 705172, 555780, 156380, 018882, 247075, 622608, 081057, 891674 won NIS5,000. Tickets ending in 78178,24371,77842,40321,06604, 97318,04171,82188,51405,50753, 90133,17795,78584,62968,45343, 68648,89699,86619 and 65949 won NIS1,000.

Tickets ending in 234,478,621 and 255 won NIS 100. Tickets ending in 75,10,13 and 21 won NIS30.Tickets ending in 10 and 92 won NIS20. Tickets ending in 3 and 5 won NIS 10.

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US pins big hopes on DC talks

By JAY BUSHINSKY

The US expects the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations that open under its sponsorship in Washington on Monday to produce concrete and possibly dramatic results ranging from a slew of bilateral agreements on a Gaza Strip airport and seaport to the ceremonial launching of the first joint industrial park that will straddle the border at Karni.

Secretary of State Madeleine Albright is prepared for at least one full week of dialogue between the parties while the nine committees charged with dealing to the practical aspects of the peace process carry on with their work virtually under the same American roof.

"Rather than convene the sessions at the State Department, they probably will be held outside Washington, possibly at the State Department's college," an authoritative source said.

Foreign Ministry Director-General Eitan Bentsur believes Albright will urge the two sides to participate in the "festive signing" of at least one major agreement and for immediate steps to follow for its implementation.

"The infrastructure at Karni is ready," he said. "If the deal is concluded funding can be anticipated from the International Bank."

In contrast, the Palestinian side has been on a comparatively low-keyed tack, pressing the secretary of state to nail down the precise extent of Israel's next troop pullback in the West Bank and elicit a commitment to stop all settlement construction for a prescribed period of time.

PA Chairman Yasser Arafat has been appealing to Albright to become actively and constantly involved in the Israeli-Palestinian negotiatons to the extent that she would participate in them whenever her presence was deemed necessary by either side.

Reports that Foreign Minister David Levy will offer a nine-month settlement freeze in return for a concomitant postponement of the IDF's next pullback in the West Bank were dismissed as "nonsense" by his aides yesterday, as they made last-minute preparations for his talks in Washington with the Palestinian Authority's Mahmoud Abbas.

"Our concepts and proposals are secret at this stage," said Freddy Eitan, one of Levy's senior advisers. He inferred that the contents of a purported package deal said to have been worked out at a special inner cabinet meeting were little more than a float launched by interested parties.

Eitan indicated that it would make little sense from a diplomatic standpoint for Levy's ideas to be revealed in the local news media before they were presented at his meeting Monday with Abbas under the aegis of Albright.

The Israeli delegation, headed by Levy and including a battery of Foreign Ministry aides, advisers, and heads of the joint Israeli-PA committees negotiating in the framework of the Oslo Accords, is due to leave on Sunday and to arrive in the US just over 24 hours before the tri-lateral session.

Asked if Levy would propose a time-out in settlement activity in return for a postponement of the next IDF redeployment, Foreign Ministry Spokesman Aviv Shir-On said: "He can conduct negotiations on all issues on the agenda." Shir-On qualified this by stressing that "decisions are made by the Israeli government." PA Chairman Yasser Arafat was described by Reuters as harboring doubts about Levy's having a mandate to facilitate implementation of 34 interim issues, foremost among them another West Bank troop withdrawal and a settlement freeze.

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's spokesman Shai Bazak refused to relate to a report in the Nazareth weekly *A-Sinara* that there had been secret talks between the prime minister's special adviser, Yitzhak Molcho, and the chairman of the PA's Legislative Council Ahmed Qurei (Abu Ala) about the projected final status negotiations.

The two have met from time to time, but they evidently did not pave the way for Levy's meeting with Abbas.

Hillel Kuttler adds from Washington: The State Department confirmed yesterday that Israeli-Palestinian negotiations are to resume here next week and run for several days.

"The meetings are scheduled to take place next Monday, and we hope that all the parties are prepared to negotiate seriously," State Department spokesman James Rubin told reporters.

"We are ready to put our shoulder to the wheel to adopt a serious effort in putting these meetings together, and if the parties are willing to negotiate seriously, then there will be a serious negotiation." Albright will likely participate in the opening session "and as appropriate in the course of them," Rubin said. The negotiations will take place in the Washington area, though not at the State Department, he added.

Rubin and another US official would not discuss the reasons behind the delay in Levy's departure. But the US official said the US was satisfied that the discussions would take place, even a few days late.

The agenda was laid out by Albright during her meeting with Levy and Abbas at the UN last month. It includes a discussion of the time-out concept, the question of IDF redeployment, and how to move into discussions of final status issues.

The discussion over a "time out" will include not only Albright's call for a recess in Israeli settlement activity, but also a stop to the Palestinians' habit of involving the UN whenever negotiations with Israel bog down, the US official said.

Asked whether the US believes that Israel must carry out its redeployment commitments, Rubin stated: "What we have said in the past is that we do believe further redeployment should go forward. This is obviously a subject for discussion. As you know the previous Israeli proposal for a [first] further redeployment did not receive plaudits from the Palestinian side, but we do want to see the further redeployment and other aspects of the Oslo Accords implemented in full."



Baptismal rites
A baby is baptized at a special mass held yesterday near the Kasser el-Yahud Monastery on the Jordan River, south of Jericho, one of the sites where tradition says Jesus was baptized. The mass, attended by hundreds of pilgrims, is held annually on the last Thursday in October. (Flash 90)

PA holding talks with Hamas to stop terror

By STEVE RODAN

The Palestinian Authority is negotiating a deal with Hamas to temporarily stop Islamic terrorism against Israel, and as a goodwill gesture has already freed 38 Islamic militants arrested last month, Palestinian and Israeli officials said yesterday.

The officials said the effort has been launched by PA Chairman Yasser Arafat so that the PA and Hamas could present a joint front against Israel during the forthcoming talks with Israel and the US in Washington.

The effort is also to ensure that the Islamic opposition will not seek to campaign against what is expected to be the PA's decision to send representatives to the Middle East economic conference in Doha.

In return for a halt in terrorism, Hamas has demanded the release of all its members imprisoned in PA prisons and permission to reopen the organization's institutions, officials said.

About 100 Hamas and Jihad activists were arrested in the PA crackdown following the September suicide bombing attack on Jerusalem's Rehov Ben-Yehuda.

A senior Israeli security source said Arafat has already begun carrying out his part of the deal. The Hamas newspaper *Al Risalah* will begin publishing next week and both the source and PA officials expect more Hamas institutions to reopen over the next month.

In addition, the PA has released 38 members of Hamas and Islamic Jihad detained after the Ben-Yehuda bombing.

The released prisoners include Hani Hassan Rahim, an Islamic Jihad militant who was involved in the suicide bombing in Dizengoff Center in March of last year. The freed detainees also include five senior members of Hamas.

The Islamic militants were freed over the past two weeks. Their release has led Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu to consider delaying negotiations with the PA, the source said.

Some PA officials are considering the prospect of forming what they described as a national unity government that would include Hamas representatives, Palestinian sources said. They said the proposal would also alleviate the growing criticism of corruption within the PA.

One of those promoting the idea is Palestinian Legislative Council member Rawya Shawwa of Gaza, who discussed a unity government with Hamas leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin on Wednesday. At the meeting, Palestinian sources said, Yassin said his organization has proposed a temporary cease-fire to demonstrate that Israel does not want peace.

But Yassin rejected the idea of Hamas entering the PA Cabinet.

Instead, he said Hamas would agree to participating in municipal elections in the territories, which so far have been delayed by Arafat.

"They don't have a clear plan," Shawwa told *The Jerusalem Post*. "But they want to share power. He [Yassin] said he doesn't agree with Oslo. I said I don't agree with Oslo either."

Shawwa said she and other PLC members are pressing Arafat to reopen Hamas-operated institutions, which included charities and social service groups.

Palestinian officials caught driving stolen cars

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH, STEVE RODAN and MOHAMMED NAJIB

Two senior Palestinian officials were arrested this week as they attempted to enter the Gaza Strip in stolen vehicles.

Palestinian Legislative Council member Moussa Abu Sabha was caught as he attempted to drive a stolen Mercedes past the Erez checkpoint Tuesday night. And yesterday morning police arrested Palestinian intelligence official Gen Zacriah Balusha as he tried to drive a stolen BMW into Gaza.

Abu Sabha, who until last year was a member of the PA Preventive Security Apparatus, has a VIP card permitting him free passage between Israel and the territories. But police, who knew that five Mercedes had recently been stolen from a Jerusalem car lot, checked the car's engine number, and found it to be one of the stolen vehicles.

Palestinian sources said Abu Sabha, who represents the Hebron district, was one of several PLC members and PA officials in the area that use their VIP status to conduct their private business. This, they said, included using their cars to bring in smuggled goods from Israel into the territories.

The sources said Abu Sabha was known in the Hebron area as being involved in thefts of both sheep and cars in the past.

"This is a case of how the big get bigger," a Palestinian source in Hebron said. "This behavior is standard fare for PA and many PLC members."

Abu Sabha claimed he had taken the car to a repair shop in Ramallah for a friend, and that he didn't know the car was stolen. But his alibi didn't check out, and he was remanded for five days by the Jerusalem Magistrate's Court. Police told the court that if he was released, he would flee to Gaza and escape prosecution.

Balusha was caught when police at Erez became suspicious of the BMW that he was riding in. Upon checking the car's registration papers, they learned it had been stolen from the Tel Aviv area several days before.

Since Balusha was only being driven and said he knew nothing about the car, he was not held and permitted to cross into Gaza. Balusha's driver was arrested.

A senior security source said that several Palestinian Authority officials are suspected of being involved in a car-theft and drug-smuggling ring in the Hebron area.

The source said Israeli authorities suspect that members of the Palestinian Preventive Security Apparatus are involved in the criminal activities, which involve both Israelis and Arabs on both sides of the Green Line.

In some cases, the Palestinian drug smuggling ring has formed links with Jewish criminals, who are bringing illegal substances in Israel and some Jewish settlements, the source said.

Israeli police are trying to induce their Palestinian counterparts to cooperate in stopping the drug-smuggling but so far the cooperation has been limited. On Monday, two Israeli men were arrested by the Palestinian Police on suspicion of trying to smuggle marijuana into Hebron.

Meanwhile, Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani told reporters he feared that high-ranking Palestinian officials were not only involved in smuggling cars into the territories, but also weapons and ammunition.

Kahalani vowed to raise the issue in Sunday's cabinet meeting.

PA Local Affairs Minister Saeb Erekat asked that Kahalani refrain from making sweeping generalizations about the Palestinian Authority.

The PLC said it would investigate the Abu Sabha arrest. In a session on Wednesday, Abu Sabha's arrest was mentioned although he was not named.

Palestinian sources said PLC speaker Ahmed Qurei was asked by Attorney General Fayez Abu Rahme to lift Abu Sabha's immunity so he could be prosecuted. Qurei said the PLC will discuss the arrest and study the evidence against him soon.

Abu Sabha was a Fatah activist during the Palestinian uprising and spent six months in administrative detention in 1989-90. A Preventive Security Apparatus source refused to confirm that Abu Sabha was a member of the agency but said that he participated in the Palestinian delegation in Madrid in 1991.

According to Israel Radio, from the beginning of the year to the end of September, 33,000 vehicles have been stolen in Israel. Police fear that the majority of the cars have already reached autonomous areas.

Liat Collins adds:

Tsomet MK Eliezer Zandberg has filed an urgent motion to the agenda in the Knesset on the car thefts. Zandberg is suggesting that the cost of the car thefts to Israel be deducted from the funds being transferred by Israel to the PA.

Arafat mulls disbanding anti-Israeli intelligence

By STEVE RODAN and MOHAMMED NAJIB

Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat is considering disbanding an intelligence service that targets Israel for espionage, in response to a demand by the Netanyahu government for a goodwill gesture to prove the Palestinian desire for better relations, a senior Palestinian source said yesterday.

The source said Arafat is being asked to eliminate the PA military intelligence service, established in 1994 and headed by Col. Mussa Arafat, uncle of the PA chief. The service focuses on collecting intelligence on the Israeli military, but also has been accused of torturing Palestinians, including Yusef Baba from Nablus earlier this year.

The Palestinian source said Arafat is exploring the option of merging the military intelligence with two other security agencies – the Preventive Security Apparatus headed by Col. Jibril Rajoub and the General Intelligence Service headed by Col. Tawfiq Tirawi.

Bassem Eid, director of the Palestinian Human Rights Monitoring Group, said he favors such a move. "We would welcome the disbanding of the military intelligence apparatus, which has arrested and tortured Palestinians in the most brutal of ways," he said. "But we hope that after it is disbanded, it will not be assimilated into other agencies."

هكذا من الاصل

Dor Shalom Jerusalem office torched

By ELLI WOHLGELERNTER

Jerusalem police are investigating the Wednesday night torching of the local office of the Dor Shalom peace activist group. The burning of the office on Pierre Koenig Street in the Talpiot industrial zone took place between midnight and 1 a.m., according to Tammi Molad-Hayo, the regional director of the organization.

"Someone poured flammable liquid in the entranceway and ignited it," she said. "The fire department checked for electrical failure, and this morning they said it definitely was arson."

Police said they have no leads on who might have done it, but are taking it very seriously. "I understand from what they've said that they have a few suspects, but they wouldn't tell us yet," said Molad-Hayo.

It is the first time there has been any trouble with the Jerusalem office of Dor Shalom, or Peace Generation, although Molad-Hayo said that the main office in Tel Aviv has received anonymous threats over the phone, as well as on E-mail and at their Web site whenever the organization organizes a large rally.

Damage to the office, which also serves as an activity center for young children, was estimated in the thousands of shekels, including cupboards, desks, chairs, and the front door. It was still unknown whether the computer there was still operable, as the electricity was short circuited.

"The place is ruined," said Molad-Hayo. "The wall-to-wall carpets have to be replaced, and we'll have to paint the walls and the ceilings. The place looks terrible. It was such a cute, warm, welcoming place, till last night. Some of the things we have here is stuff that people donated, so now we'll have to buy everything new, and it won't be easy."

She said it is ironic that the incident took place a week before the November 4 anniversary of Yitzhak Rabin's assassination.

"It's like nothing happened, like we didn't learn anything," Molad-Hayo said. "But we're not going to let it stop us. We're going to rebuild the branch here, and we're going to make a big comeback."



A member of Dor Shalom contemplates the wreckage of the organization's Jerusalem office yesterday. (Flash 90)

NEWS
in brief

1,738 family violence files opened in TA

More than 1,700 files relating to family violence were opened in the first nine months of the year in the Tel Aviv police district, police said yesterday at a study day on family violence. Deputy Insp.-Gen. Cmdr. Gabi Last said police are trying to better deal with family violence in the Arab and haredi communities by hiring women investigators that members of these sectors can relate to.

Judge Amnon Strashnov caused a small furor when he warned police not to be taken in by, for example, "a woman who files a rape complaint against her husband to extort more money in a divorce settlement."

Na'amat official Ronit Lev-Ari interrupted Strashnov angrily, and later said that remarking on the exceptions as he did foils attempts to get family violence taken seriously. *Itim*

Sara Netanyahu sues to surpress ex's material

Sara Netanyahu appeared in court yesterday to try to prevent her ex-husband, Doron Neuberger, from publishing letters she had sent him and tapes of their conversations.

Four months ago she charged in a TV interview that Neuberger had secretly recorded her when they were married. Neuberger, 37, admits having such tapes but denies they were made in secret.

Last year Neuberger dropped plans to write a kiss-and-tell memoir about their failed marriage after what he cryptically termed "very heavy pressure."

Now Netanyahu is asking for a court injunction that would prevent any publication of the materials Neuberger has. She appealed to a special court for family disputes that holds its sessions behind closed doors. *AP*

Court rejects Hai Vekayam petition

The High Court of Justice yesterday rejected a petition by Hai Vekayam to block the reflooring of an area above the new mosque in the Solomon's Stables area of the Temple Mount. Hai Vekayam asked the court to order the authorities to enforce the building code and other regulations pertaining to the site.

Justices Yitzhak Zamir, Dalia Dorner, and Yitzhak Englard ruled that the flooring work involves replacing worn out flooring and does not constitute a change requiring planning board or other approval. *Itim*

ULA wants to aid allergy sufferers

The Union of Local Authorities has asked all municipal authorities and local councils to adopt a by-law barring the planting within their borders of tree varieties that are especially liable to make allergic residents miserable. According to council chairman Adi Eldar, only Arad has such a by-law. Cypress, tamarisk, olive, pecan, date palm, and other trees produce pollen that is especially allergenic. These species aggravate the conditions of the 600,000 Israelis suffering from hay fever, asthma, chronic rhinitis, and allergic ophthalmological conditions. *Judy Siegel*

Conversion to be CNN talk show topic

The issue of conversion to Judaism is to be the theme of a CNN question and answer program Monday night. The program, Q&A with Riz Khan, is to feature Reform Rabbi Michael Boyden and Orthodox Rabbi Jonathan Rosenblum, a *Jerusalem Post* columnist, taking questions from an international audience.

Questions before and during the program may be directed by telephone, (1)404-5256888, by fax, (1)404-8274056, or by e-mail, cnn@turner.com/q&a *Haim Shapiro*

DRIVE CAREFULLY

Russia names Mideast peace envoy

By JAY BUSHINSKY

Russia's appointment of a Middle East peace envoy evoked a nod from Israeli officials yesterday, along with comments to the effect that it is a positive step in the direction of a common goal.

Although the new Russian role and the man selected to fill it were mentioned in Beirut at the start of Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov's week-long tour of the region, confirmation did not come until its last leg in Cairo.

Deputy Foreign Minister Viktor Possovalyuk will join the peacemaking club, alongside the US's Dennis Ross and the European Union's Miguel Moratinos. Primakov announced the new assignment after conferring with Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa.

A senior government official said Russia's prospective role as a mediator will be complicated by its ongoing supply of ballistic missile technology to Iran. He noted that China's commitment to halt weapons shipments to Teheran leaves Moscow in a potentially untenable position insofar as regional peacemaking is concerned.

Possovalyuk's career includes a stint as the former USSR's ambassador to Iraq. He also headed the Russian Foreign Ministry's Middle East division.

His Arabic is fluent and enabled him to serve as an interpreter for various Soviet leaders.

'Pope's theologian' says Christianity fueled antisemitism

VATICAN CITY (Reuters) – A top Catholic theologian, opening a Vatican symposium here yesterday on antisemitism, said Christian religious prejudices against Jews had stifled the capacity of people to react to antisemitism in the Nazi era.

The statement by Father Georges Cottier, sometimes known as "the pope's theologian," is considered significant because of his closeness to Pope John Paul.

The symposium began as a leading Jewish group again called on the Vatican to open its files on the Holocaust.

Cottier said the symposium was called to study "prejudices and pseudo-theological judgments... which served as pretexts for the unjustifiable vexations suffered by the Jewish people in the course of their history.

"These prejudices, so to speak, stifled the capacity for evangelical reaction among many people when Europe was engulfed by the antisemitism of National Socialism," he said in a keynote address.

The symposium, entitled "Roots of Anti-Judaism in Christian Circles," focuses on religious attitudes towards Jews in Christian teaching over the past 2,000 years and how this affected history.

It was not until the 1960s that the Roman Catholic Church officially repudiated the concept of Jewish guilt for Jesus's death and eliminated the phrase "perfidious Jews" from the liturgy of a Holy Week service.

Cottier said the gathering would help Christians make an "historical examination of conscience" in time for the start of the third millennium. The pope has said several times in recent years that the entire Roman Catholic Church should use the start of the third millennium as a chance to seek forgiveness for past errors and sins.

Some 60 leading Catholic theologians and representatives from Protestant and Orthodox Christianity are attending the three-day closed-door meeting. No Jews are taking part.

"The problem which concerns us belongs to Christian theology," Cottier said in apparent response to some suggestions that Jews should have been invited.

But while Catholics look at themselves in a theological mirror, Jews want a more concrete gesture. The symposium will "miss the point if it does not fully open the pages to... the period of the Holocaust," Shimon Samuels, the Simon Wiesenthal Center's director for international liaison, said in an open letter to the pope earlier this week.

Samuels, who is based in Paris, said Catholic-Jewish relations "will continue to be exacerbated" if the archives of the Pontificate of Pope Pius XII "are not fully accessible." Jews have accused the Vatican and wartime Pope Pius XII of turning a blind eye as the Nazis killed some six million Jews. Samuels called on the Vatican to open the archives of Pius's pontificate to an independent international commission and to begin a "Holocaust education curriculum" in Catholic schools.

Renovations planned for Old City's Jewish Quarter

By ELLI WOHLGELERNTER

A blueprint is being developed for a major renovation of the Jewish Quarter of Jerusalem's Old City. It includes plans to reopen a sealed gate in the Old City wall some 50 meters east of Zion Gate.

The plan, initiated by Deputy Housing Minister Meir Porush through the ministry's Company for Renovating and Developing the Jewish Quarter, calls for a $30 million, two-story underground complex that would include an apart-hotel, a commercial center, and educational institutions.

A spokesman for the Housing Authority said the blueprint is three to four months away from being a final plan, after which it will be presented first to the board of directors of the company, and then to the Ministerial Committee on Jerusalem.

"It's a question of money, a question of budget," said spokesman Moshe Eilat. "Whether [Finance Minister Yaakov] Neeman will allocate money for the project – there are many questions about it. Porush wants it, and there are many who support it, including Mayor [Ehud] Olmert."

A spokeswoman for the mayor said the city had no comment on the plan, as it had not yet been finalized or submitted for approval.

The head archaeologist of the Antiquities Authority said he opposed creating a new gate in the Old City's wall, as it would harm the character of the 460-year-old historical structure.

The ministry's plan to open another gate is part of an effort to improve access to the Old City, which is severely strained by vehicular traffic inside its four-kilometer-long wall, as well as to build up the Jewish Quarter in order to increase its population of 2,400 by 25 percent.

Families quarrel at monument to helicopter victims

By DAVID RUDGE

A verbal argument broke out between bereaved families yesterday during the unveiling of monuments near Beit Jann in memory of the 73 victims of the February helicopter disaster.

Ya'acov Gottlieb said the families would not allow the disaster – in which so many had died because of "terrible negligence" – to be pushed aside.

Gottlieb's comments caused a stir among the bereaved families. One man shouted his disapproval, charging that Gottlieb was not speaking on behalf of all the parents. This caused more disturbances, as some parents reacted to the disruption and others called for calm.

OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Amiram Levine called on the bereaved parents, who had already undergone enough pain and suffering, not to take out their anger and frustration on one another.

The monuments were erected by Beit Jann resident Majid Kazamel – one in memory of his son, Fhadi, who was killed in the disaster and the other for the remaining victims.

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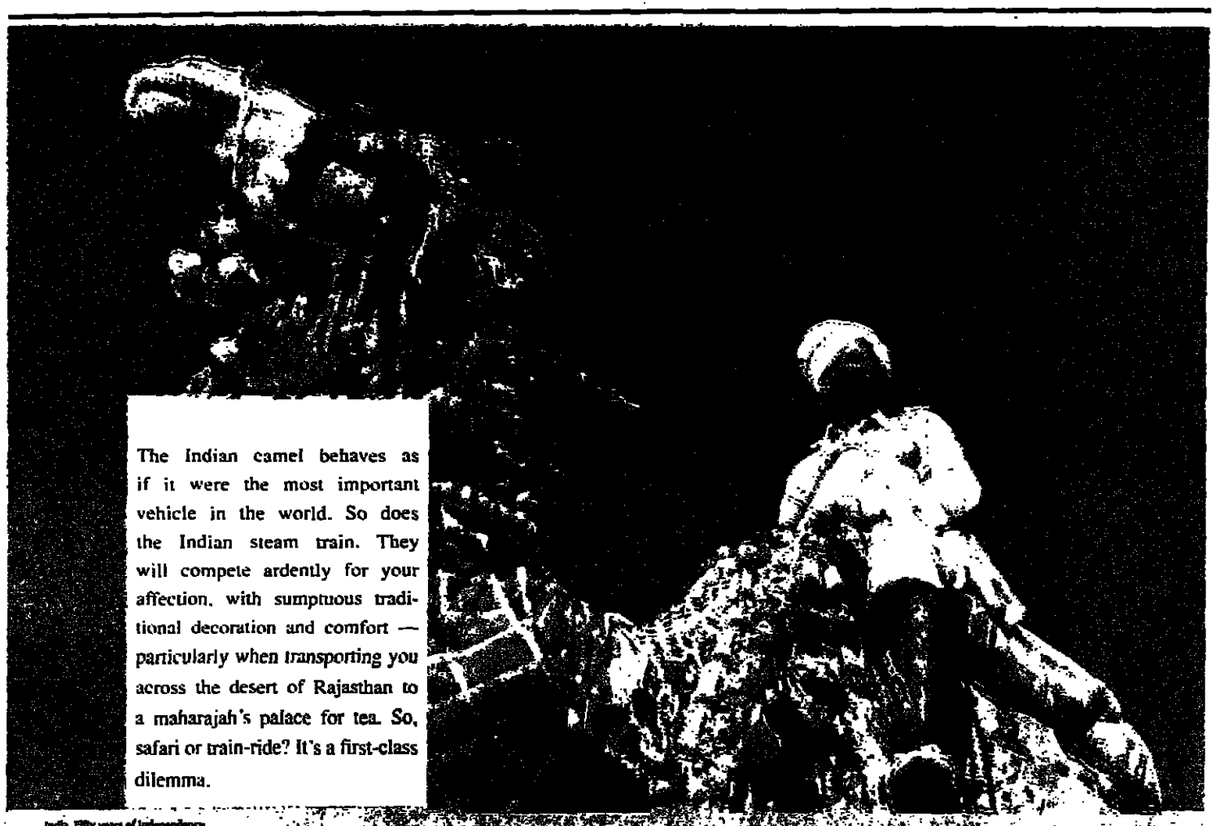
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Chinese president visits US Congress

By LAURA MYERS

WASHINGTON (AP) – Addressing some of his toughest critics, Chinese President Jiang Zemin defended his human rights record yesterday and extended a hand of friendship to the US Congress.

His meeting came a day after Jiang and President Clinton sparred over differences, but ended their talks as "old friends."

Since China opened to the world in the 1970s, "the Chinese people have enjoyed a much better life, and it has intensified efforts to improve democracy and the legal system," Jiang told about 50 lawmakers at a breakfast in one of the ornate chambers of the Capitol.

He urged "vigorous efforts in improving and developing China-US relations." Congressional leaders – Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, House Speaker Newt Gingrich, and their Democratic counterparts, Sen. Tom Daschle and Rep. Dick Gephardt – met with Jiang privately, too.

Although several lawmakers welcomed Jiang at Wednesday night's White House state dinner, like Clinton, they did not mince words with him yesterday morning.

"We do not believe that freedom is limited by geography or by history – we believe that all men and women should be able to live, work, and speak free from governmental interference," Lott said.

Gingrich, a former history professor, gave Jiang a tour of the Capitol Rotunda, showing him a painting of the signing of the Declaration of Independence and guiding him to a replica of the Magna Carta, the 13th-century English document guaranteeing civil and political liberties.

"I reminded our Chinese guests that you cannot have economic freedom without political freedom, and you cannot have political freedom without religious freedom," Gingrich said. "You cannot have a system that is half totalitarian and half free. It will not survive."

Jiang wasn't met by protesters when he arrived on Capitol Hill. On Wednesday, more than 1,000 demonstrators shouted anti-China, pro-Tibet, and pro-Taiwan slogans across from the White House.

Later yesterday, Jiang was heading to Philadelphia, where he planned to see historic Independence Hall. His eight-day US tour, which ends Sunday in Los Angeles, is part of the first state visit by a Chinese leader in 12 years.

His wife, Madame Wang Yeping, visited a Washington school yesterday.

Some lawmakers have unsuccessfully moved every year since the 1989 massacre of pro-democracy demonstrators in Tiananmen Square to cut normal trade relations between China and the United States as punishment.

They continue to talk tough about the growing US-China trade deficit approaching $44 billion this year, Beijing's plans to reclaim Taiwan – some fear by military force – and the communist regime's brutal persecution of Buddhists in Tibet and other worshipers throughout China.

Criticizing the groundbreaking nuclear deal the two presidents agreed to on Wednesday, lawmakers say they distrust assurances from China that it will halt atomic weapons assistance to other nations, particularly Iran. In exchange, Beijing will be able to buy nuclear reactors and technology from American companies, which stand to make deals worth billions of dollars.

Democratic Rep. Edward J. Markey said he would move to tighten the 1985 US-China Nuclear Cooperation Law that Clinton will certify to seal the agreement with China. Congress has 30 days to consider Clinton's certification, which he said he would send to Capitol Hill.

"Before we start flooding China with advanced nuclear technology, we must insist on public, unambiguous, and tangible Chinese commitments that are subject to congressional scrutiny," Markey said.

Clinton, in confronting Jiang on human rights at a joint news conference after their summit Wednesday, said he was "very pleased" the Chinese president was visiting the roots of American democracy and freedom.

"It was there that our founders set forth the beliefs that define and inspire our nation to this very day," Clinton said of Philadelphia. "We believe all individuals, as a condition of their humanity, have the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

In their lively back-and-forth display of divergent views, Clinton told Jiang the US and China have "profound disagreements" on human rights and Beijing is "on the wrong side of history" about Tiananmen.

Jiang adamantly defended the bloody crackdown as the "correct conclusion" by the government. And he insisted China's human rights policies are a matter in which other nations should not interfere.

"The world we are living in is a rich and diverse one, and, therefore, the concepts on democracy and human rights and on freedoms are relative," he lectured, telling Clinton each country should make its own rules.

In the end, the leaders shook hands, smiled, and Clinton put his arm at Jiang's back to escort him from the room. The Chinese leader, noting this was their fifth meeting, said, "We are already old friends."

Two harsh China critics, Senate Foreign Relations Committee chairman Jesse Helms and Rep. Benjamin Gilman, chairman of the House International Relations Committee, scored Clinton for warmly welcoming Jiang, but both greeted Jiang at the state dinner.

China "emphasizes the lack of human rights," said Helms. "The administration's policy toward China has been an abject failure. Abject means both utterly hopeless and shamelessly servile."

Said Gilman, a New York Republican: "The president has described his policy toward China as one of constructive engagement. I think it has been more on the order of appeasement."



Ngawang Jorden, a Tibetan graduate student studying Buddhism, holds up a sign protesting human rights violations in China during a news conference organized by the Coalition for Freedom and Human Rights in Asia at Harvard University on Wednesday. (AP)

Egyptian bus attackers sentenced to death

By ESMAT SALAHEDDIN

CAIRO (Reuters) – An Egyptian military court yesterday sentenced two brothers to death for a bus attack in which nine German tourists and an Egyptian driver were killed.

Saber Farahat Abu Ela and his brother Mahmoud had pleaded guilty to the charges of premeditated murder, attacking tourists, and damaging the economy through violence and terrorism.

Seven other men had been charged with providing the weapons used in the attack. Of these, one was sentenced to 10 years at hard labor and five to prison terms ranging from 15 months to seven years. One man was acquitted.

At the start of the trial that began on October 14, Saber Ela said his only regret was that the victims of the September 18 attack in central Cairo had not been Jews.

Saber has said he espouses Islamist ideology, but was not a member of any of the Moslem militant groups that have been waging a bloody campaign to topple the government. Some have attacked tourists in an effort to cripple the economy.

In a statement earlier this month, the largest group, al-Gama'a al-Islamiya (Islamic Group), hailed the "mujahideen" brothers and warned tourists not to come to Egypt.

Military court verdicts cannot be appealed, but sentences can only be carried out after they have been approved by the president as supreme commander of the armed forces.

Officials say Saber has a certificate saying he is mentally unstable and escaped from the hospital where he was committed after killing three foreigners in a Cairo hotel in 1993.

Saber says he paid a doctor to fake the certificate. The doctor and other officials at the mental hospital have been put on trial on charges of taking bribes from Saber to allow him to come and go at will.

President Hosni Mubarak began to refer Islamist militants to the speedy justice of military courts in 1992, ignoring criticism from human rights groups. So far 90 death sentences have been issued and 57 carried out, all but two by hanging.

The bus attack in Cairo's crowded Tahrir Square was the first on tourists since Gama'a activists shot dead 18 Greek tourists they mistook for Israelis in April 1996.

Nearly 1,100 people, including 34 foreigners, have been killed in a five-year armed campaign by Moslem militants to set up a purist Islamic state in Egypt.

Tel Aviv's air among worst in country

By LIAT COLLINS

Tel Aviv residents cannot breathe easy, at least not according to the latest survey by the Environment Ministry, which shows that air pollution in the "city that never sleeps" is among the worst in the country. The main culprit is vehicular exhaust.

Ministry Director-General Nehama Ronen said this week that the survey shows the worst times for air pollution in Tel Aviv are the morning and afternoon rush hours and between 11 p.m. and 2 a.m. "It seems the city's slogan about never stopping is true," she said.

A team, including representatives of the Interior Ministry, Tel Aviv Municipality, and the Transport Ministry, will meet soon to decide upon measures to relieve the situation. One step under consideration is closing the city to traffic on days when climatic factors make the threat of pollution particularly severe, as happens in other major cities around the world such as Paris. These measures would not cancel out the need to continue working on plans for a subway system, Ronen said.

Ronen said an epidemiological survey has shown that children in certain Tel Aviv neighborhoods are more likely to suffer from asthma and other respiratory problems than their peers elsewhere.

Four out of five air quality monitoring stations in the central area – the first to be established as part of a national monitoring network – this month recorded deviations above the national standard for air pollutants.

Decisions should be taken to lower the sulfur content of fuels used in the refineries and ensure that automobile tests include checking that vehicles are fitted with catalytic converters, Ronen said.

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Who fears final status?

After a seven-hour cabinet meeting this week, Foreign Minister David Levy finally had his marching orders for the meeting on Monday with Palestinian Authority deputy leader Mahmoud Abbas and US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright. The deal Israel seems to be proposing – a limited "time-out" in settlement growth in exchange for postponing the Oslo Accord's second redeployment – has been advocated by this newspaper as both fair and good for the peace process. If the Palestinians will not agree to anything along these lines, it will be fair to suspect that the problem is not with the specific deal, but with their readiness to go to final-status talks with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's government.

Sometimes it looks as if PA Chairman Yasser Arafat regards the Netanyahu government as a nightmare from which he is waiting to wake up. A few months ago, after US officials recovered from their own state of denial, American mediator Dennis Ross reportedly told Arafat that he had better plan on Netanyahu staying put at least until the next elections in the year 2000. It is not clear whether that message sank in then, and if it did, that Arafat might not have begun daydreaming again following Netanyahu's recent troubles.

As long as Arafat believes that a more pliable Israeli government could be around the corner, it is not entirely surprising that he is in no hurry to enter into final status talks. Arafat's waiting game has created a strange situation in which the Palestinians, who have been struggling for a generation to convince Israel to negotiate on the basis of "territory for peace," are now balking when Israel is almost begging to do just that.

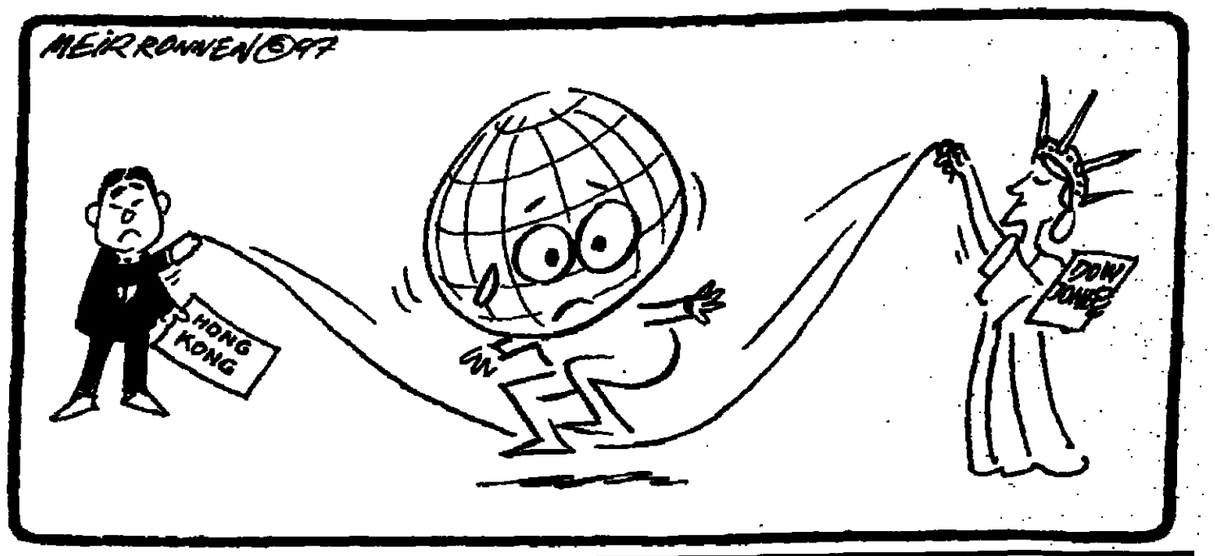
It is not that Israel really expects the final-status agreement to be more pleasant to negotiate or easier to implement than Oslo itself; it is that final status at least has a prospect of a payoff – peace – while the interim agreement gives Israel mostly heartache. Israel can credit Oslo for paving the way to peace with Jordan and for dissolving much of what was left of the Arab economic boycott, but the commitment most immediate to Israelis – to vigorously combat terrorism – has been largely reneged upon by the Palestinians.

Despite and because of Oslo's problems, there is no reason to doubt Netanyahu's seriousness about plunging into final-status talks. Such is, ironically, the triumph of the Oslo Accords: they have made Israel yearn to begin the most difficult part of the process. Oslo was supposed to be a means to the end of a final peace agreement. Now Oslo is like a booster rocket that has accomplished its task: Israel wants to get on with the exploration of new worlds, risks and all, while the Palestinians are still trying to squeeze some more momentum from the booster.

The challenge now is to persuade Arafat to take yes for an answer: yes to a deal in which a rightist Israeli government limits settlements, and yes to a compromise over territories that Israel has held for 30 years. But as long as Arafat can say no and have Netanyahu blamed for his stalling, why say yes? Arafat is already warning that the much-anticipated meeting in Washington will be a "waste of time." It will be a waste of time, or worse, unless the United States convinces Arafat that this "crisis" has gone on long enough, and that they will blow the lid off his stalling tactics if he continues to refuse to take yes for an answer.

If Arafat is indeed stalling because he is waiting for Netanyahu to fall or for a unity government to arise, he should think again. Though many expect that Netanyahu will have to bring in Labor in order to pass a final peace agreement, by this reasoning the more Arafat delays final status talks, the more he delays a unity government. Alternatively, if Arafat thinks that more waiting will escalate the crisis and bring down Netanyahu completely, again he is mistaken. Despite the general antipathy toward Netanyahu, the international community has also become convinced that Arafat must deliver on his commitments to combat terrorism. Even Russian Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov mentioned this at his press conference with Arafat. A future security crisis is more likely to strengthen Netanyahu and weaken Arafat than the opposite.

The fact that Arafat has milked the current crisis to the point of diminishing returns should not be considered a failure for him, but a victory. It is quite remarkable that Arafat is on the brink of securing any limitation on settlement growth from a Netanyahu government. It would be a major mistake for the Palestinians or the US to be so greedy as to demand a freeze that includes natural growth, something that did not occur even under Rabin and Peres. The parties should push to conclude the package deal that seems so close to gelling, and which holds the promise of bringing the peace process to a new plane.



Disappearing common values

MARK A. HELLER

Consider this. Israel has a foreign minister who has spent hardly any time abroad and speaks no English, and it has a prime minister who lived much of his adult life in the United States (including two senior diplomatic appointments) and speaks fluent, unaccented American English. The former is a welcome guest in Washington, though he has been reluctant to go; the latter wants very much to go, but he can't get an invitation.

This is not just because Bill Clinton's dance-card is too full to squeeze in another visiting dignitary. Clinton, along with many other people who matter in the United States, has apparently decided that this prime minister is a lost cause: either he won't commit himself to do what needs to be done, or he will commit himself but fail to follow through. As a result, Binyamin Netanyahu's credibility is so low that official Washington is unwilling to give him the time of day.

What's more, there is now no political penalty to be paid for snubbing the prime minister of Israel, because neither Congress nor American Jewry will rally to his side. This is a new and potentially ominous development, and the reason goes far beyond unhappiness with Netanyahu's policies on secure peace.

Since 1967, Israeli and American governments have often had very sharp differences about what needed to be done. But even when those differences were most acute, Israel always had an ace in the hole to shield it from the worst of administration wrath: supportive American public opinion, energized by American Jews and reflected in the attitudes of Congress.

Sympathy for Israel stemmed from its image as a tolerant, pluralistic island of democracy in a sea of autocracy, a new society which welcomed downtrodden immigrants from around the world, a people which respected and embraced religion but kept it separate from the state, and a country which sought peace but defended itself bravely when there was no choice. In short, Israel was a kind of mirror-image of the United States, and when Americans looked at Israel, they believed that they saw themselves.

For many years, Israeli governments, especially those dominated by the Likud, tried to persuade themselves, and anyone else who would listen, that this was all sentimental claptrap, and that what really mattered was a hard-headed calculation of national interest. Since Israel was an indispensable "strategic asset" in the Cold War struggle for the destiny of the world, the US would never push Israel to the breaking point, no matter how much exception it might take to Israeli policy in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

That argument was always dubious, and it is now also anachronistic. So "sentimental claptrap" is all that's left. And this prime minister, by pandering to the forces of sectarianism, dogma, superstition and intolerance, is doing everything to ensure that the commonality of values that links the United States and Israel will also become an anachronism.

In an age of universal real-time communications, it is impossible to conceal behavior that makes Israeli politics more and more remote from the normative universe of most American Jews, and most others who make or influence American policy.

TO get a sense of the gap between the American ethic and emerging Israeli reality, look at how the notion of "coercion" is folded into the debate about the conversion bill and the religious councils bill. Orthodox Rabbis in Israel want to preserve the cartel that provides jobs for otherwise unemployable seminary graduates in the councils and rabbinical courts that operate the personal status "industry" (marriage, divorce, burial, etc.) in this country. To do this, they get religious politicians to use the power of the state executive and legislature – though not the judiciary – to reaffirm their monopoly to define what is "authentic" Judaism and who is an "authentic" Jew, and to force everyone who is not a non-Jew to use their services.

Yet when Reform and Conservative Jews try to break the establishment Orthodox monopoly and introduce an element of voluntarism, "they" are accused by haredi MK Avraham Ravitz of trying to force their views on "us" – as if his constituents and Shas leader Ovadiah Yosef's will somehow be forced to abandon their spiritual guides and resort to Conservative or Reform rabbis.

The use of state power to define "authentic" religion and enforce compliance with it is completely contradicts the American ethos; a recent move by the Russian Parliament to recognize only four genuine religions and to designate Russian Orthodoxy as official Christianity came in for such vigorous criticism in Congress that Secretary of State Albright expressed concern about its effect on the future of American-Russian relations. It is also anathema to most American (and other Diaspora) Jews, for whom religious-communal affiliation in general, and personal status in particular, are – or should be - matters of personal choice.

Disagreements about the second redeployment can cause some unpleasantness, but domestic Israeli developments threaten to bring about a sea-change in Israeli-US relations

Disagreements about the second redeployment can cause some unpleasantness, but domestic Israeli developments threaten to bring about a sea-change in Israeli-American relations. Many of those who influence (or dictate) Netanyahu's agenda don't know or don't care, but the prime minister knows better. That is why he is ambivalent about going to the General Assembly of Jewish organizations next month in Denver.

But knowing is one thing, doing is something else. Unless Netanyahu stops subordinating long-term strategic needs to short-term political calculations, the common values that link Israel and the United States will continue to weaken. If there's no White House welcome mat for Netanyahu, he can at least take comfort in another visit to Rabbi Kadouri. But the rest of the country will be out in the cold.

The writer is senior research associate at the Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies at Tel Aviv University.

Assad's war calculus

GERALD M. STEINBERG

For the past year, a number of Israeli analysts have been discussing and predicting a Syrian surprise attack, designed to take some, if not all of the Golan Heights by force.

The argument for a Syrian "quick grab" is based on a combination of political and military factors, including the stalled peace process, the appearance of a tougher line in the negotiating positions of the Netanyahu government, the perception of internal divisions and lack of confidence in Israel, and the rift between Washington and Jerusalem.

The authors of these scenarios emphasize the missiles and chemical warheads that are at the disposal of the Syrian generals, along with thousands of tanks, and a growing array of combat aircraft. The use, or even the threat of chemical weapons could severely hamper the mobilization of reserve forces and air force operations, and cause panic in Israel's cities. As a result, the planners in Damascus might conclude that even without the aid of Egypt, they could capture the Golan and gain a cease-fire before the IDF has time to respond effectively.

While the IDF must be prepared for such an attack, Syrian President Hafez Assad, always cautious, has many other factors to consider, and in the big picture, this option does not look very good. Militarily, Syria is still far from "strategic parity" with Israel and faces a possible second front on the Turkish border. Politically, by initiating a war, Assad risks undermining his own regime and the eviction of Syrian occupying forces from Lebanon.

The last time the Syrians tried to take the Golan, in 1973, they lost ground and paid a very heavy price. Israeli artillery is still sitting on the Golan Heights, ready to pound Damascus. Assad also knows that that if he were to use any of his chemical weapons, the force of the Israeli retaliation would be overwhelming.

Economically, Assad's hard-line policies have cost the Syrian people dearly. While Egypt and Jordan have finally begun to move toward the 21st century, Syria is still firmly anchored in the 1940s (or perhaps much earlier). Its businesses and population are isolated from the rest of the world, and the longer they wait, the higher the cost of integration.

While the IDF must be prepared for a surprise Syrian attack, the prospect does not seem very likely

Another war with Israel would set them back much further.

POLITICALLY, Assad also has a great deal to lose in a war. The damage that would be caused by Israeli counterattacks against Damascus and the surrounding areas would exacerbate the deep fissures in the already fragile Syrian political and social fabric. Assad's brutality, including the 1982 massacre of thousands of Moslem Brotherhood members in Hama, has left many enemies waiting for the opportunity of revenge.

If the Syrian president loses control over the Republican Guard, civil war could break out between the various claimants to succession, including Assad's brother Rifat, his son Bashar, and various generals and heads of intelligence agencies. In addition, the Sunni Moslem majority in Syria could use the chaos of such a conflict to attempt to overthrow the rule of the Alawite minority, which holds the key positions and uses them to increase its wealth.

The visit of Russian Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov to Damascus this week only served to remind Assad of how much the Syrians lost with the end of the Cold War. Primakov may talk a good game, but he cannot provide the massive arms and resupply conveys that the Soviet Union sent during and after the wars in 1967, 1973, and 1982. Primakov and Assad are dinosaurs left over from the Cold War, and there is little they can do other than talk about the "old days." Assad still needs the economic resources of the West, and an attack on Israel will not help him obtain them.

Syria's strategic capabilities have declined in other ways as well. In addition to worrying about Israel, Assad now worries about a possible conflict with Turkey. In addition to territorial disputes and differences over water supplies, the government in Ankara accuses Syria of providing support for terror attacks in Turkey, and its ballistic missiles and chemical weapons are seen a major threat. Turkey's security would be threatened by a more powerful Syria, and to prevent this, strategic cooperation between Israel and Turkey has grown steadily.

And then, there is Assad's continuing Lebanese problem. If the Syrian leader can claim one success to show for his years in power, it is the consolidation of Syrian hegemony in Lebanon. Syrian troops are well entrenched, and in Beirut, the previously open and lively society is being reduced to a satellite of Damascus.

But Syrian influence is fragile, as illustrated by US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's recent official visit to Beirut, which Assad tried and failed to prevent. A war with Israel would force the Syrians to withdraw some or all of their forces from Lebanon, providing the Lebanese with an opportunity to break free.

These factors all mitigate against a Syrian military adventure now. Even under the optimal conditions (for Assad), the prospects of achieving anything are close to zero, and the costs are sure to be very high.

The writer directs the Arms Control Project at the Begin Sadat Center for Strategic Studies, Bar-Ilan University.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ILL-FOUNDED REVIEW

Sir, – Mr. Daniel Ben-Yaakov's review in last week's *Magazine* of Ambassador Moshe Yegar's book *Neutral Policy, Theory versus Practice: Swedish-Israeli Relations* saddened me greatly. Even though much could be said about the book and its contents, fortunately the review does not mirror the content of the book.

Usually one should not take seriously so ill-founded accusations as the ones by Mr. Ben-Yaakov. But standing alone Mr. Ben-Yaakov's assault could, in the eyes of an Israeli public that does not regularly follow these matters, harm the true image of Sweden.

For those who concern themselves with Sweden and Swedish policy on the Middle East the article would appear an absurdity. The article does not reflect Swedish-Israeli relations, neither today, nor in the '60s, '70s and '80s. Suffice it to say that our relations are much deeper, more complex and elaborate in real life.

The Swedish and Israeli Labor Parties have had close links over the years. To imply that the Labor Party would even consider having contacts with a party with Nazi sympathies is absurd. The Swedish Social Democratic Party played a constructive and positive role when the State of Israel was born. Mr. Ben-Yaakov's accusations are therefore as grave and irrelevant as if they had been pointed at the Israeli Labor Party.

Mr. Ben-Yaakov's onslaught is out of proportion, proves his lack of knowledge of history and is littered with petty mistakes. Names, genders and positions of Swedish politicians have been mixed revealing the author's ignorance of facts.

JOHN HM HAGARD,
Ambassador of Sweden.
Tel Aviv.

HUMBLE PIE

Sir, - Having read Ruthie Blum's column "Humble pie isn't fattening" (J.P., Oct 17), I can only suggest that the writer rejoin her natural family - the Hartzufim cockroaches.

CEPORAH M. LEVINE
Jerusalem

GOOD READ

Sir, - It's always good news to see more of Ruth Blum's observations on our society. Her Friday columns are perceptive, and a good read.

DR. YOAV GANZACH
Ramat Aviv

RESPECT FOR ALL PEOPLE

Sir, - Marilyn Henry's article "Yale sued for violating Jewish beliefs" (October 17) raised very important issues that reach far beyond the Gothic walls and spires of Yale University. If the basis of these students' case is that the current housing policy violates their right of free speech and of equal protection under the law, would they be willing to extend such rights to others at Yale and beyond? Will these students and their supporters who are accusing Yale of being inflexible, intolerant, and insensitive to their Orthodox Jewish beliefs, stand up for my right as an Israeli Jew to practice my non-Orthodox Judaism with full protection of the law?

As support builds to discredit Reform and Conservative Jewish practice, Reform facilities are desecrated and Conservative Jews are abused in public. The continued silence of religious and political leaders to speak out in the name of decency, fairness and equality is stunning.

As the "Yale Five" go to court in the name of these principals, they and their rabbinic supporters would add much credibility and sincerity to their claims, were they to speak out on behalf of others as well. I look forward to being able to work with the "Yale Five" in advancing the cause of tolerance, sensitivity, and respect for all people, and hope that when they are in Jerusalem they will join me, my rabbi, and my congregation as we establish our equal rights here.

HOWARD ADELMAN
Jerusalem.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

60 years ago: On October 31, 1937, *The Palestine Post* reported that Aaron Alkabetz (32) was killed and four other Jews were wounded by Arab terrorists in the Old City of Jerusalem.

A curfew was imposed on Lod following an attack by Arab terrorists on the airport. Egged buses were again fired upon and quarries attacked. Telephone lines were cut. The road from Palestine to Egypt was closed until further notice.

25 years ago: On October 31, 1972, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that Israeli planes hit four terrorist bases on the outskirts of Damascus after a Syrian artillery barrage on the Golan Heights. Damascus reported more than 50 killed and 70 wounded.

Foreign Minister Abba Eban stressed in his official protest to West Germany that the moral duty of the countries of the world was to fight terror and not to surrender to it. He was referring to the West German surrender to Lufthansa hijackers. The West German Foreign Ministry denied that it was capitulation and that Lufthansa's first duty was guided by a need to save passengers.

Alexander Zvielli

POSTSCRIPTS

SOOEE!

Out there in fashionable Wendell, North Carolina, Robey Morgan gave President Clinton a holler – at the latter's request.

Morgan said his phone rang so many times after he won the National Hollerin' Contest that he had to unplug it.

Good thing he turned it back on.

It rang, he answered and a voice told him the President of the United States wanted to talk to him.

"I thought they were kidding," the 82-year-old hollerin' champ said.

The president requested a command performance.

Morgan obliged by doing what he called a good morning or evening holler that neighbors once used to greet each other.

Then he gave Clinton a choice of songs he could holler, and the president chose "Amazing Grace."

The call lasted 10 to 15 minutes, and Morgan said he won't forget it.

AS WE'RE a little short of bona fide philosophers these days, this sort of stuff, antigravity conundrums, is the best we can come up with for the '90s:

If a mute swears, does his mother wash his hands with soap?

Why do they report power outages on TV?

What do you do when you see an endangered animal that is eating an endangered plant?

Would a fly without wings be called a walk?

Why do they lock gas station bathrooms? Are they afraid someone will clean them?

If the funeral procession is at night, do folks drive with their headlights off?

If a stealth bomber crashes in a forest, will it make a sound?

When it rains, why don't sheep shrink?

Should vegetarians eat animal crackers?

If the cops arrest a mime, do they tell him he has the right to remain silent?

Why is the word abbreviation so long?

If you're cross-eyed and also dyslexic, can you read all right?

هكذا من الأصل

Some myths about tolerance

JONATHAN ROSENBLUM

In the furious debates over the conversion bill, the terms tolerance and pluralism have been repeated over and over again with talismanic urgency.

The mere pronunciation of these words is enough to place one on the side of the angels. Those who oppose the state of Israel putting its imprimatur on the idea that Judaism is whatever you will it to be are portrayed as hatred-filled, Khomeinis-in-waiting who lack *any* concern with the unity of the Jewish people.

However, the failure to accept any belief or action as legitimate, in Jewish terms, *reflects neither an* indifference to Jewish unity nor a lack of love for one's fellow Jews.

Religious Jews, in fact, are perceived as "intolerant" precisely because they take Jewish unity so seriously. They know – and the experience of the last 200 years makes clear – that if Judaism is reduced to each individual Jew's projection of his philosophy on the cosmos, we will eventually stop viewing ourselves as one people. Search the Torah, and you will not find one word of support for the proposition: Believe whatever you want; do whatever you please; all is equally precious in God's eyes as long as you are sincere.

Religious Jews recognize that our fates are inextricably linked. The Midrash compares the Jewish people to passengers on a boat. And as the Hafetz Haim used to point out, no one would stand by apathetically *while his fellow passenger blasted* a hole in the hull of the boat, even if he *did so in his own cabin.*

No one would stand by while his fellow passenger blasted a hole in the hull of a boat, even if he did so in his own cabin

Traditionally Jews have seen themselves as possessing a collective task in the world, whose optimal achievement depends on each Jew fulfilling his individual role. In other words, we are each a limb on the body of the Jewish people. As such, no Jew can remain indifferent to the atrophy of any other limb.

"Intolerance" is often an expression of love, and its opposite a sign of a lack of concern. The most loving parent, for instance, will show zero tolerance for his young child running into the street or playing with matches or for the older ones experimenting with drugs or driving 150 km. per hour.

In the *Phaedrus*, Plato defines true love as seeking the perfection of the beloved. Criticism, not tolerance, is the lover's tool in bringing about that perfection.

And long before Plato, our Torah made the same point: The mitzvah to reprove one's fellow Jew is immediately followed by the command to love him as your brother. If non-religious Jews today do not feel the love of their religious brethren, it is largely due to a lack of personal contact. Ask any Jew who has ever sought a Shabbat invitation to a religious family.

Anyone who does not reject the idea of truth out of hand will, of necessity, be intolerant of something. And that includes the Reform and Conservative movements. The Conservative movement does not recognize the offspring of Jewish fathers and non-Jewish mothers as Jews even though the Reform movement does. The Conservative movement requires converts to undergo circumcision and immersion in a mikveh; the Reform movement does not. The Conservative *movement requires* a woman to receive a bill of divorce before *remarrying*; for the Reform a civil divorce is sufficient.

Rabbi David Feldman, one of the Conservative movement's leading scholars, recently wrote in the *Forward* that "the Conservative movement should have the intellectual integrity to sever ties with the Reform, whose conversions and bills of divorce we do not recognize." Many others have asked the same question: "How can we demand that the Israeli government recognize Reform conversions if we ourselves do not?"

Even among the Reform, not quite anything goes. A Cincinnati congregation was expelled from the movement a few years ago for declaring that a relationship to a Godhead is not necessary for humanistic Judaism. And a few months ago, there were protests within the local Reform movement when a Reform rabbi "married" two homosexuals. (Here one may wonder whether the objections were theological or out of a fear of discrediting the movement in Israeli eyes. A number of Reform rabbis already solemnize homosexual relationships, and the Reform convention currently underway in Dallas seems likely to adopt a resolution calling on them to do so.)

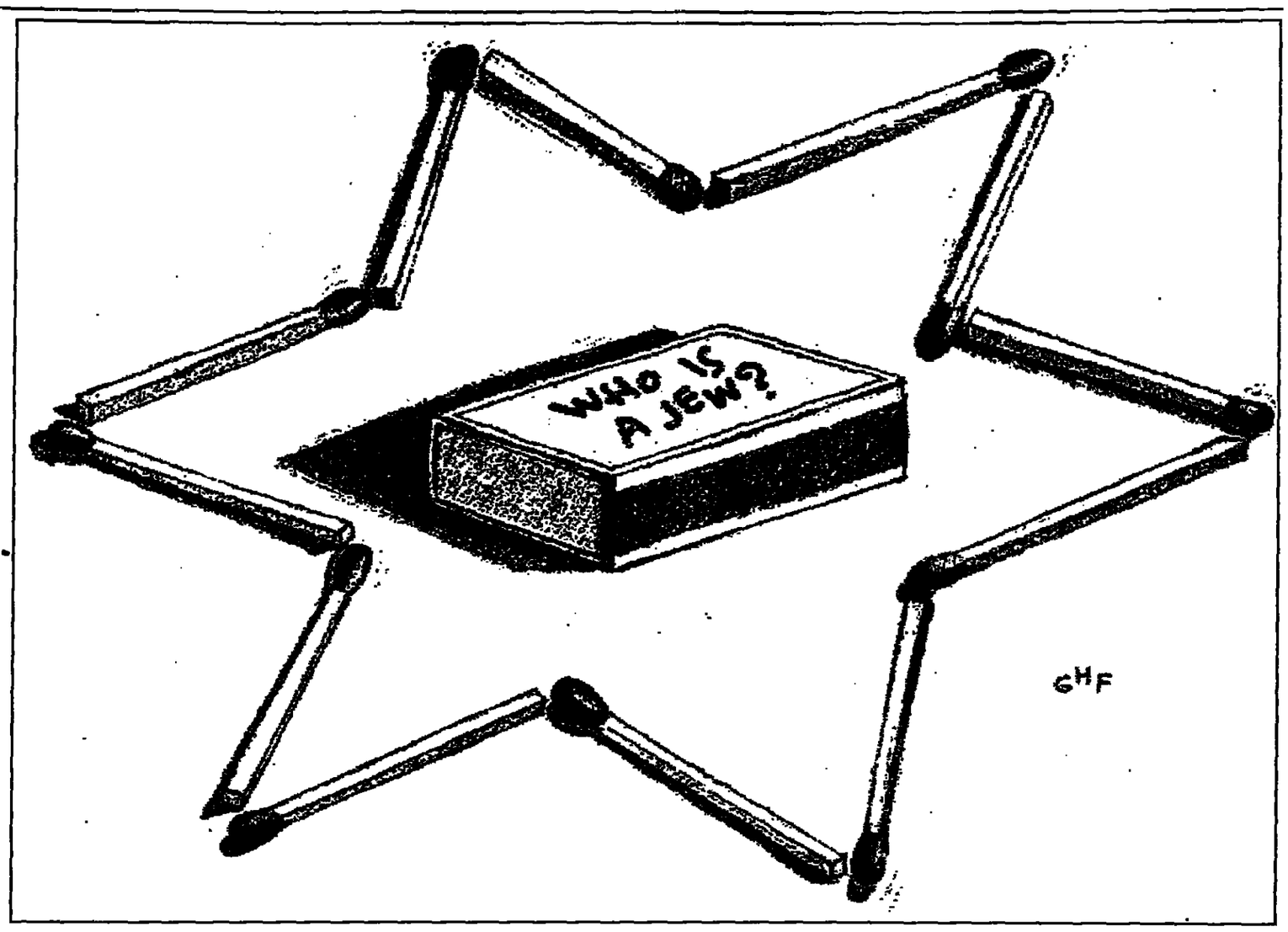
At the other extreme are Reform rabbis who view Orthodox practice as beyond the pale. One local Reform rabbi, breathlessly featured in this paper last week, has decided that one cannot fulfill the mitzvah of prayer in a non-egalitarian minyan. According to this tyro, Rashi, Maimonides, and the Vilna Gaon never prayed.

Reform rejection of traditional practice is often tinged with a healthy dollop of contempt for Orthodox Jews themselves. Simeon Maslin, president of the Reform rabbis' union, writes that "bearded men in black caftans and women wearing sheitels... [who] pray rapidly in singsong Hebrew, pore over the Talmud in segregated yeshivot, buy their meat and fowl from glatt kosher butchers" have by "their obsession with the punctilios of ritual, their manner of dress, their romanticization of the past and, yes, their fanaticism" rendered themselves unfit to be considered authentic Jews.

The only thing distinguishing the Orthodox, it would seem, is that their dividing lines between legitimate and illegitimate are based on objective criterion and age-old practice, and not the product of ad hoc intuitions.

Their standards are determined by recourse to the Written and Oral Torah, whose meaning is determined by those of proven halachic expertise. They are not dictated by the prevailing zeitgeist, as determined by polling the laity.

The writer is a Jerusalem Post *columnist.*



Family, faith, and the conversion bill

DAVID HARTMAN

The modern world has witnessed the breakdown of a shared understanding among Jews of how they are meant to live. In contrast to many periods in the past, Torah and Halacha no longer define the collective or individual convictions of the majority of the Jewish people. The interaction with modern civilization and culture has weakened the controlling influence of classical Judaism over contemporary Jewry. While we may lament this loss and fear for the spiritual and cultural future of Jewish history, we must recognize this dramatic change in Jewish consciousness as a fact of modernity.

This erosion of normative consensus was accompanied by the evolution of family into the basic concept informing Jewish self-understanding and commitment. Sociologically speaking, family rather than norm defines the fundamental experience of Jewish unity and accountability.

Family-related notions of "people," "memory," "shared suffering," and "history" have emerged as the primary cementing values uniting Jews throughout the world, with the State of Israel – the shared home of all Jews – serving an essential role in giving structure and coherence to this family-governed experience of Jewish identity.

The centrality of family in defining Jewish consciousness is not, I believe, antithetical to classical notions of Jewish identity. On the contrary, Maimonides rules in the *Mishneh Torah*: One who separates himself from the community, even if he does not commit a transgression but only holds aloof from the congregation of Israel, does not fulfill religious precepts in common with his people, shows himself indifferent when they are in distress, does not observe their fast, but goes his own way, as if he were one of the gentiles and did not belong to the Jewish people – such a person has no portion in the world to come. (Laws of Repentance, 3:20) Indifference to the family of Jews is tantamount to indifference to their covenantal destiny.

Today, perhaps more than in any other period of history, Jews are openly showing a deep concern and an unprecedented ability to act effectively as a community on behalf of endangered Jews wherever they may be. If one compares North American Jewry's passivity during the Holocaust with its activism for Soviet Jewry in the 1960s, one is struck by the transformation of Jews from a reticent, self-conscious community into a vigorous, bold, national body articulating its legitimate survival needs and interests in the public arena of world cultures and nations.

There is no doubt that one of the primary causes of this transformation was the return of the Jewish people to its ancient homeland; the re-establishment of the State of Israel gave Jews a new sense of public dignity and recognition, a new voice in which to express their collective concerns and aspirations.

One cannot issue a bold invitation to all Jews to view Israel as their home and allow the Knesset to rule that the Jewish way of life of the majority of world Jewry is fraudulent

THE Law of Return gave formal legal expression to the then-evident idea that Israel was – and always will be – the home of all Jews. What this law said, in effect, was that Israel is not only the home of those who cast votes in its elections or serve in its army, but that Israel is also home to the whole of the Jewish world. Everyone who participates in the destiny of the Jewish people has a right to become a citizen of the State of Israel.

If one appreciates the importance of the idea of family for contemporary Jewish consciousness and how deeply Israel has penetrated and sustains this sense of family by providing a common historical home for the entire Jewish people, then one cannot but realize the tragic mistake of trying to pass the currently debated conversion bill in the Knesset.

One cannot, on the one hand, issue a bold invitation to all Jews to view Israel as their home and, on the other hand, allow the Knesset, the main legislative body of Israel, to rule that the Jewish way of life of the majority of world Jewry is fraudulent, inauthentic, and officially devoid of legitimacy as a mediating framework of Jewish life and values.

The defensive argument that the conversion bill would apply only in Israel is as cynical as it is irrelevant to the offensive issue at the heart of the legislation. How can the philosophy of Conservative and Reform Judaism be treif in Israel but kosher in the Diaspora? Is their content different?

It is ironic that the theology and practice of Conservative and Reform Jews in Israel is probably more in keeping with traditional Judaism than in America. This irony only reveals the cynicism of those willing to give a *hechsher* because of their fear of interrupting the cash flow from the Diaspora or of the negative political and economic repercussions of proclaiming the illegitimacy of Conservative and Reform synagogues and rabbis in North America and Europe.

How crass and transparently political is this argument aimed at the opponents of this seemingly serious *theological and religious issue!* What an "honorable" message the Knesset thus issues to the world at large! It is important to place my objection to religious legislation in perspective by considering the distinction between pluralism and relativism.

THE pluralism I am advocating aims at guaranteeing the rights of all religious groups to express their understanding and appreciation of Judaism within Israel, without the state deciding in favor of any one party to the religious discussion. I am not asking Orthodox rabbis to give up their convictions or understanding of the meaning of Torah and Halacha. They are entitled to teach whatever they believe and to argue vigorously against Reform and Conservative rabbis and their theologies. This is a legitimate disagreement that should be aired and discussed throughout the Jewish world.

Open disagreements about the nature of halachic practice and religious belief, however vehement, will not threaten the future of the Jewish people so long as the legislative authority of the State of Israel remains outside of the debate. If the Knesset were to legislate the sole legitimacy of the Orthodox understanding of Torah into law, then the family-based sense of Jewish identity would be called into question. Without a vital sense of family, we will never be able to build a moral and spiritual understanding of Torah needed for our generation. Family and collectivity precede the commitment of faith. The book of Genesis and the early chapters of Exodus tell the story of a family, a people, who share a common destiny. Only in the 19th chapter of Exodus does God call upon Moses to bring this people to Sinai to enter a covenant based upon Torah and mitzvot.

Today, although we have experienced a shared Egypt, a shared vulnerability, and a shared suffering, we do not share a common Sinai. We are divided by competing and differing understandings of what Sinai entails, of what Torah and mitzvot should mean for modern Jewry. We do, however, share a common memory of suffering and a sense of family that binds us together as one people.

The Knesset must appreciate the important role of sustaining Jewish identity throughout the world. Having lost Torah as the organizing factor of Jewish consciousness, we must nurture the remaining element of family awareness that informs Jewish identity today. How dare we weaken this fragile but indispensable feature of Jewish continuity!

I understand the pressures on the prime minister and others to make coalition agreements and to stay in power, if only for the sake of providing "peace with security" for the Jewish people in Israel. I also believe, however, that Jews both in Israel and throughout the world require for their security the belief in the Israeli government's ability to transcend self-interested coalition politics for the sake of a more profound conviction and commitment to the continued well-being of the Jewish family.

Without such a belief, Jews will become alienated from their government and Israel will lose the credibility and vitality necessary for making this society the spiritual home for all Jews.

The writer heads the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem.

SAFED

Join us, and discover its secrets

This unique, small mountain-top town was the center of Jewish mysticism and Kabbala. For centuries the home of rabbis and sages, and recently of artists, it continues to attract visitors from around the world.

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OPROEP
AAN ALLE
Nederlanders
IN HET BUITENLAND

Tweede Kamerverkiezingen 6 mei 1998

Op 6 mei 1998 zullen de verkiezingen voor de Tweede Kamer worden gehouden. Iedere stemgerechtigde Nederlander kan aan deze verkiezingen deelnemen, ook als hij of zij in het buitenland woont. Dat wil zeggen dat iedereen met de Nederlandse nationaliteit, ongeacht zijn of haar woonplaats, van 18 jaar of ouder in principe kan deelnemen.

MAAK GEBRUIK VAN UW STEMRECHT

Hoe kunt u stemmen?
Om te kunnen stemmen moet u zich tijdig als kiezer registreren. Van 3 november 1997 tot en met 24 maart 1998 kunt u zich laten opnemen in het kiezersregister voor de Tweede Kamerverkiezingen. De kiesregistratieformulieren zijn op aanvraag verkrijgbaar bij uw ambassade of consulaat. Tevens kunt u formulieren terugvinden op de internet-site van het Ministerie van Buitenlandse Zaken. Over de manier waarop U kunt stemmen na als kiezer te zijn geregistreerd, heeft de Ambassade voor U de nodige informatie.

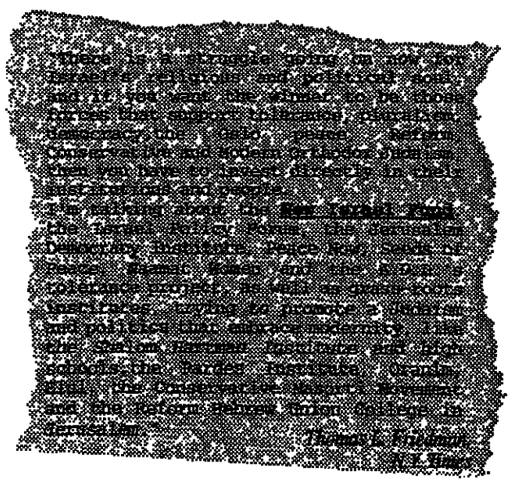
Heeft u al eerder gestemd?
Nederlanders die in 1994 in het buitenland woonden en toen hebben deelgenomen aan de verkiezingen voor de Tweede Kamer krijgen automatisch van de gemeente Den Haag een nieuw kiesregistratieformulier toegezonden. Zij krijgen dat uiteraard toegestuurd op het in 1994 opgegeven adres. Als u in de tussentijd verhuisd bent kunt u voor de zekerheid het best een nieuw registratieformulier aanvragen.

Wilt u meer informatie?
Op de internet-site van Buitenlandse Zaken vindt u een beschrijving van de registratieprocedure. U kunt natuurlijk ook altijd contact opnemen met uw ambassade.
Nederlandse Ambassade, Beit Asia, Weizmann Street 4, Tel Aviv, tel. 03-6957377.
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The above notice in Dutch refers to elections in Holland.

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We mourn the passing of
FRANCES S. GOLDBERG (Faiga)
on erev Rosh Hashana.
Her sons, Shabsi and Michael Goldberg
and her grandsons, B.Z. and Dani
She was revered by the Jewish Community of Boston, Brookline, MA, USA, which she served with love.

With deep sorrow, we announce the passing of our beloved
DAVID BIBER
Adored husband of Lily
Father of Naftoli Biber, Rochelle and David Frankfurter, Asher and Danielle Biber
Dearly loved grandfather
Shiva from Thursday, October 30, at 58/5 Shlomo Hamelech, Netanya.

The MediaWorks Center for Career Training
extends heartfelt condolences to
Asher and Danielle Biber
on the passing on their father and father-in-law
DAVID BIBER
תנחום יגום אתכם בתוך שאר אבלי ציון וירושלים
The management, staff and students of MediaWorks

On the first yahrzeit of our beloved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather
Rabbi ZEMACH MENACHEM ZAMBROWSKY
we will gather in tribute to his memory,
at the Sanhedria Cemetery, Jerusalem,
on Thursday, November 6, 1997 (6 Heshvan 5758) at 4 p.m.
The Family

Kehilat Zichron Yosef
Har Nof, Jerusalem
expresses its profound grief and sorrow
on the untimely passing of its patron and benefactor
AVRAHAM SILVER ז"ל
Toronto, Canada
Deepest condolences to his wife, Bonnie,
and the children, Jeffrey, Sheri and Jeremy.
Rabbi Dr. Sholom Gold Rav
Zvi Maisel President

Emultek Ltd
mourns the untimely loss
of our friend and colleague
ANTHONY VEEDER
We extend our heartfelt condolences to Sarah and the children, and to the entire family.

With great sorrow we announce the passing of
ANTHONY (Aharon Avraham) VEEDER ז"ל
The funeral will take place today, Friday, October 31, 1997,
at the Beit Knesset in Hoshaya, at 10:30 a.m.
Shiva at the Veeder home in Hoshaya.
The Veeder family and the Hoshaya community

Sincerest condolences to
Esther Namdar and the Kohanim family
on the loss of their beloved father
DAVID KOHANIM ז"ל
We are with you in your sorrow
המקום ינחם אתכם בתוך שאר אבלי ציון וירושלים
The extended Schachter family

Sincerest condolences to
Esther Namdar
on the loss of her devoted father
DAVID KOHANIM ז"ל
May the memory of his good deeds
bring comfort to the entire
Kohanim, Philip, Namdar and Hakimi families.
המקום ינחם אתכם בתוך שאר אבלי ציון וירושלים
We are with you in your loss.
The staff and employees of the Schachter Namdar group

UK: Don't rule out attack on Iraq

LONDON (Reuters) – Britain said yesterday military action against Iraq could not be ruled out if Baghdad refuses to comply with United Nations weapons inspections.

"The rest of the world cannot sit by idly while Iraq develops its weapons of mass destruction," Junior Foreign Office Minister Derek Fatchett told BBC television.

"The response will be serious. It will be commensurate with the action," he said. Asked whether a military response is possible, Fatchett said: "We're not ruling out any options at this stage.

"We have to be tough. We have to continue our message. We are very determined in what we are saying and we are not going to allow Iraq to arm itself again," he said.

Fatchett spoke one day after the UN Security Council condemned Iraq's decision to bar Americans from UN weapons inspection teams. The teams were sent in after the 1991 Gulf War to rid Iraq of weapons of mass destruction, a key condition for lifting wide-ranging sanctions imposed after its August 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

Iraq had given 10 Americans among about 100 UN arms personnel a week to leave, as from yesterday morning, saying the inspection teams had become an instrument of Washington policy.

In reaction, the UN special commission (UNSCOM) immediately suspended all field operations.

The security council statement was drafted by Britain – a key force in the Gulf War – to demonstrate that all 15 members are united when confronted with a blunt Iraqi challenge.

"We will expect Iraq to respond positively to this resolution," said Fatchett, who specializes in Middle Eastern affairs. "We are saying to Iraq that all possible options will be considered to be used against them if in fact Iraq doesn't respond." The tough UN talk caused some jitters, with oil prices rising on the renewed tension and China urging both sides to keep their cool.

"We call on the parties concerned to exercise restraint, and to avoid intensifying the conflict," a Foreign Ministry spokesman said in Beijing yesterday.

The UN resolution said the council was "determined to ensure rapid and full Iraqi compliance with the relevant resolutions and for that purpose will remain actively seized of the matter."

The Baghdad media praised Iraq's gamble but reserved its toughest attacks for the United States, which led the allied bombardment against Iraq six years ago.



Hitchcock Stamp
Actress Janet Leigh, who starred in Alfred Hitchcock's film 'Psycho,' and Pat Hitchcock, the only daughter of the legendary director, pose in front of a huge copy of a new postage stamp bearing his likeness, which will be released in the US in early 1998. (AP)

A common queen

Column One


Thomas O'Dwyer

At 1.8 billion strong, it might be the biggest Anglo-Saxon community in the world.

Or it might be merely a cozy London club for 54 government leaders and hangers-on who fawn on royalty and enjoy expensive trips to inconsequential conferences at interesting vennes – like Edinburgh this week.

The Commonwealth, in semantically incorrect days of yore, was known as the British Commonwealth of Nations. Before that it was simply known as The Empire.

It is not to be confused with the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) – an upstart imitation hardly anyone ever hears of any more. That was founded in 1991 by 12 remnants of the Soviet empire.

It comes as something of a surprise to be reminded that 15 members of the (British) Commonwealth still do not have a domestic head of state. They accept the head of the rickety House of Windsor as their monarch – and retain governors general. They include big ones like Australia, Canada, and New Zealand, and little ones like Jamaica, Bahamas, and Solomon Islands.

Common what?

The British once ruled more states than are current Commonwealth members, and there are some notable ex-colonial Anglo-Saxon party-poopers. There's the huffy republican next-door neighbor, Ireland ("Join that lot? Give us a break!"), and the United States ("What's the Commonwealth?").

But there were a couple of wannabe applications before this week's Commonwealth summit – Yemen and, inevitably, the Palestinians. They, of course, would join the International Confederation of Cat Fanciers if only it would recognize the State of Palestine, with Jer-mews-alem as its capital, under the sole leadership of Yasser yadda yadda...

Both were rejected – Yemen has a dubious democracy, but that has been no bar to some other dubious Commonwealthers. The Palestinians were told to come back when they have a real rather than a virtual state. No one in the secretariat is holding his breath.

To be fair to what is in concept a pointless organization, the Commonwealth in conference this year was at least worth writing a column about. It made some sensible decisions, allocated a not insubstantial sum of hard cash to help its poorer members, and upheld its dignity by declining to seat the equally obnoxious regimes of Nigeria and Sierra Leone.

Blair flair

If the Commonwealth represents the philosophy of nation shall speak unto nation, then why knock it? There are worse things than a common language encompassing diverse cultures. It tends to be less pompous about this than the snooty Francophone league, and is more down to earth with valuable cultural and educational programs.

The more serious coverage of this year's biennial conference (even in the US), which featured some diverse and interesting views on the global economy and trade, probably resulted from media interest in the jazzy, glitzy opening ceremonies. These were hosted not so much by Queen Elizabeth, the head of the Commonwealth, as by her jazzy, glitzy, new superstar prime minister, Tony Blair.

The queen's Britain is that of happy retainers, who know their place, in their thatched cottages, set in rolling green hills. The Guard changes, men in skirts play bagpipes, others dress in "pink" and chase foxes through the mist on Irish horses, leading packs of vicious hounds. The background music is "Greensleeves" and "God Save the Queen."

Noblesse CDs

No wonder Her Majesty, dressed in the imperial yellow of a Mandarin court, looked confused. Blair had dumped all ye olde English tea shoppe stuff and rolled out a video extravaganza rather archly named *www.a young country@britain.gov. queen@show*, looked distinctly unamused by the synthesizer version of the national anthem. At least it wasn't re-named Blair Saved the Queen in commemoration of the royals' Diana debacle.

To a background of Microsoft graphics and whirling CD-ROMs, Blair said: "As you see, this is a time of renewal and redefinition – for Britain and, I believe, for the Commonwealth. The Britain of the elite is over."

The elite remained seated behind him in a yellow suit. She said recently: "The modern world is moving too fast for some of the people on it," and some African heads of state, whose countries lack a single computer, much less a phone line to plug it into, must have heartily agreed.

The giant video display did feature some fast-cut clips of the queen's half-century of trips to strange Commonwealth lands, where she watched even more exotic tribal ceremonies than britain-dot-com.

"My goodness, I have been busy," she quipped as she rose to speak.

The roars of laughter and loud applause from the delegates had a genuine ring of relief for this familiarity. Noblesse may still have some oblige.

There will be no *www.commonwealth* for them yet. The queen and her world is still the one they nostalgically understand from those rosy days of faded imperial simplicity.

Arab League turns down UK offer on Lockerbie

CAIRO (Reuters) – Arab League Secretary-General Esmat Abdel-Maguid has said there would be no point in sending Arab and African observers to a possible trial in Scotland of two Libyans indicted for the 1988 Lockerbie airliner bombing.

"Attendance of Arab and African observers at the trial...will not be useful because they do not have the power to remark on the procedures and progress of the trial," the Egyptian news agency MENA quoted him as saying on Wednesday.

British Foreign Secretary Robin Cook told parliament on Tuesday he was asking UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, Abdel-Maguid and his counterpart in the Organization for African Unity to send teams to see the Scottish legal system in action in the hope of breaking a deadlock preventing the trial.

Cook said the teams could meet Scottish legal experts and examine the facilities and procedures for the trial, as well as arrangements for international observers to attend it.

Abdel-Maguid said the Arab League supported Libya's offer to let the suspects stand trial in a neutral country, said MENA, monitored by the BBC.

Britain and the United States say the two Libyans were behind the bombing of Pan Am flight 103, in which 270 people died, many of them Americans.

The United Nations imposed sanctions on Libya in 1992 for refusing to extradite the pair to face trial in Britain or the United States. Libya says they would not get a fair trial in either country, proposing that they be tried on neutral ground.

Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi reiterated his refusal to hand over the two men after meeting South African President Nelson Mandela in the Libyan coastal town of Zuwarah on Wednesday.

Niger to US: Stop meddling

NIAMEY (Reuters) – Niger has told the United States to stop meddling in its internal affairs after the State Department called for an "immediate restoration of a civil and democratic government" in the West African country.

A government statement said Niger would conduct its democratic process at a pace wanted by its people, in conformity with national realities and its identity and basic aspirations.

"The government of Niger reminds the American government that the people of Niger will not accept lessons, advice or more particularly the dictate of a foreign power on the way it conducts its democratic process," the statement added.

The dispute was triggered by implementation of a tough new press law under which a journalist and the head of the West African nation's human rights league have been jailed.

A US statement, issued in Washington on Tuesday, condemned the jailing of journalist Moussa Tchangari of the independent *Alternative* daily and of human rights league president Bagnou Bonkoukou last Wednesday.

Tchangari was sentenced to three months in jail a month ago on charges of publishing official documents, while Bonkoukou was handed a two-year term last week on charges of insulting President Ibrahim Bare Mainassara in a newspaper.

The US suspended cooperation with Niger following the controversial election as president in July 1996 of Mainassara, a former general who toppled a civilian government in a coup six months earlier.

The former army chief scrapped an independent national election commission part-way through polling and set up a replacement which declared him winner of the election.

British nanny jury rehears evidence

By LESLIE GEVIRTZ

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., (Reuters) – The Massachusetts jury deciding the fate of a British au pair charged with murdering a baby left in her care reviewed medical testimony on its third day of deliberations yesterday.

They wanted to go over what the brain surgeon who operated on Matthew Eappen said he saw when he punctured the dura, or brain covering, of the 9-month old baby.

Fluid spurted from the infant's brain, soaking neurosurgeon Joseph Madsen, a prosecution witness in the case of Louise Woodward, the 19-year old from the village of Elton near Chester in England, who is charged with murder.

It was the color of that brain fluid that particularly interested the nine women and three men on the jury.

Under cross-examination, Madsen had said the fluid had a clearish color like serum. Serum, jurors were told, would be a sign of an older injury that was healing.

The defense has argued that the head and wrist injuries Matthew suffered occurred weeks earlier than February 4 when the baby was rushed unconscious and barely breathing to Boston's Children's Hospital. He died five days later of massive head injuries after his parents ordered life support removed.

The jury then wanted to hear the testimony of Dr. Jan Leestma, a neuropathologist, who testified that he had hard evidence the skull fracture Matthew suffered was at least two weeks old. The jury wanted to hear his statements regarding serum. But Middlesex County Superior Court Judge Hiller Zobel told the jury that a transcript was unavailable.

Leestma was one of several high-priced witnesses, some of whom received up to $900 an hour for the testimony in court, that the defense put on the stand. E.F. Au Pair, the agency that brought Woodward over, is paying her legal bills.

As the wait for a verdict continued, the press corps grew to at least 80 with networks from both sides of the Atlantic sending crews to the courthouse in Cambridge.

Boston newspapers and television stations have sent reporters to Woodward's home village and British media have fanned out through Cambridge and Newton, where the Eappens live.

Prosecutors contend that Woodward was frustrated and angry and violently shook Matthew, then slammed his head against a hard surface to get him to stop crying.

The jurors must decide one of three possible verdicts: guilty of first- or second-degree murder, or acquittal.

The difference between first-degree and second-degree murder in Massachusetts rests on the phrase "extreme atrocity and cruelty." First-degree murder brings a mandatory sentence of life in prison without parole. In second-degree murder, the penalty is life, but parole is possible after 15 years.

Two years later: Where is the Left?

Activists believe that after two years of paralyzing despair following Rabin's murder, the peace camp will reawaken with a mass rally in Tel Aviv. But as Dan Izenberg writes, planning the event has exposed tensions within the camps.

Meretz party functionary Rami Sadeh, the secretary of the Peace Movements Coordinating Committee, expects 100,000 people at next Saturday's rally in Yitzhak Rabin Square to mark the second anniversary of the prime minister's assassination. If his forecast is accurate, it will be by far the biggest display of strength by the peace movement *since the Likud's return to power* in May 1996.

It will also provide proof of the claims of Sadeh and Peace Now activists Janet Aviad and Mossy Raz that there has been a massive reawakening of the Left in the past few months after almost two years of despair and depression that began with Rabin's murder and was heightened by Netanyahu's election victory.

But the story behind the planned gathering also reveals the weaknesses and tensions within the so-called peace camp. The nature of the rally – a memorial to Rabin rather than a political protest against the government — was determined after an emotional debate pitting the so-called radicals in the peace movement against the moderates.

The revival of the coordinating body, bringing together almost all of the left-wing and center-left movements, is itself a sign of the revival of that camp, in and out of parliament, after the traumas of the past two years.

The committee was first established in 1992 and organized the rally in which Rabin was killed. It collapsed with his death and was revived a few months ago. Both Labor and Meretz take credit for its *resurrection – one more* indication of the rivalry between them. Be that as it may, the first committee meeting was held in the office of Labor Party leader Ehud Barak.

On paper, the committee consists of some 25 political parties, institutions and movements.

But, according to Sadeh, the real powers in the committee are the Labor Party, Meretz, Peace Now and Dor Shalem Doresh Shalom, the movement headed by Yitzhak Rabin's son, Yuval.

Almost everyone in the peace camp agrees that there is need for a coordinating body. "The general public doesn't distinguish between *one movemen and another*," said Raz. "They want to participate in protest activities and don't care who is behind it. By coordinating certain activities, we can establish a broader opposition."

At the same time, the leaders agree that joint activity should be limited to major events – like the anniversary of Rabin's murder or the anniversary of the signing of the first Oslo Accord. So far, these are the only occasions which have inspired coordinated action. Otherwise, most of the movements concentrate on their own activities – or, at best, join forces for isolated events.

'We must move towards peace by adopting a responsible program – like the one Rabin started. If we foment polarization, we could undermine our goals.'
– Oren Yehi-Shalom of Dor Shalom

Aviad believes that over the past two months, Peace Now has turned a corner. "For four years we thought we were building peace at the grass-roots level," said Aviad, referring to the years of the Rabin-Peres government. "We thought we had another four years to go and then, in the year 2000, we could close shop. That changed in 1996. We had to rebuild a street presence to challenge Netanyahu. That meant reorganizing chapters, trying to bring in young people, forming committees on the settlements and Jerusalem and, above all, mobilizing people."

Peace Now resumed its activities several months after the election, following the crisis over the Western Wall Tunnel, said Aviad. But it was only with the Jewish takeover of houses in Ras al-Amud and the fiasco over the attempted assassination of Hamas secretary-general Khaled Mashaal in Amman, that Peace Now began to return to itself.

"Since then, there has been a qualitative change in the spirit of the peace camp that indicates to me that a forceful movement is emerging again," said Aviad. "In the last two months, there has been a deluge that I can't recall since the intifada. We had no problem in getting hundreds of people to the protest tent at Ras al-Amud. For the first time since the war in Lebanon, we are getting young people to attend the vigil outside Netanyahu's home. Many university students are joining the protests. It reminds me of my generation."

According to Aviad, the strength of Peace Now is in the clarity of its message. It stands for two independent states, including a Palestinian state with territorial contiguity, thus obliging Israel to make major territorial concessions, the removal of Jewish settlements that interfere with this contiguity, and compromise over Jerusalem whereby its Palestinian citizens must vote for the Palestinian government and the Palestinian capital will be established in the vicinity of Jerusalem.

'For four years we thought we were building peace at the grass-roots level, that in the year 2000 we could close shop. That changed in 1996. We had to rebuild a street presence to challenge Netanyahu.'
– Janet Aviad of Peace Now

Aviad maintains that the clarity of Peace Now's stand is the source of its strength. When any of the movement's principles are violated by the government, the movement does not have to spend time explaining to its followers why they should come out and demonstrate.

It is also the clarity of its platform and its confrontational tactics that distinguish Peace Now from Dor Shalem/Doresh Shalom and is the source of the underlying tension between the two movements.

One Peace Now official said representatives of the two groups met soon after Dor Shalem was founded to see if they could work together. After hearing Dor Shalem's ideas, the Peace Now representatives realized they could not work together because "Dor Shalem wasn't ideologically consolidated and its style was quite different from ours."

Dor Shalem, according to its spokesman, Oren Yehi-Shalom, emphasizes social and educational activity in the hopes of building a society which will, in the natural course of events, desire peace. "We are called the generation of peace, not peace tomorrow morning," said Yehi-Shalom, in an apparent swipe at Peace Now. "We must move towards peace by adopting a responsible program — like the one Rabin started. If we foment polarization, we could undermine our goals."

Incrementalism, grass-roots change over many years, moderation and consensus are the key words in the Dor Shalem lexicon. The movement links right-wing radicalism, religious fundamentalism and militant nationalism to irrational thinking. Rational people want peace and the way to make Israelis rational is primarily through education and social programs.

Currently, Dor Shalem has launched a pilot project at Tel Aviv's Kedma school to teach children high-level computer literacy. "In the modern world, people must be involved with computers," said Yehi-Shalom, "otherwise, they fall behind. We want to bridge the social gap."

'All the left-wing groups are more interested in the well-being of their own organizations than in the overall goal.'
– Yitzhak Frankenthal of Netivot Shalom

Today there are huge social divisions in society which provide fertile ground for exploitation on the part of extremist elements," he continued. "It is clear to us that a healthier society is in the interests of those who believe in rationality and that those who believe in rationality are the ones who believe in peace. It is easy to incite people in distress with ideas based on emotionalism. The peace movement has until now failed to make inroads with this population."

Dor Shalem places more emphasis on its social programs than on its political activism and its approach to the peace process is strongly influenced by its overall concern to attract people who have until now been outside or opposed to the peace camp.

"We must take this nation and lead it to the desired change," declared Yehi-Shalom. "The peace process is a difficult one from a psychological point of view. We have to work with the people. Whoever forgets that ignores the danger of polarization."

Yehi-Shalom takes pride in the fact that Dor Shalem maintains a dialogue with the settlers, and has held meetings with Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon and Foreign Minister David Levy. "We don't close any doors," he said. "That's why people of all streams can join us." He is not disturbed by the fact that, unlike Peace Now, the movement does not have a detailed political blueprint for a peace settlement.

"We're not a political party," he protests. "We don't have to provide the answers. It's no disgrace to be unsure. But there's no uncertainty about our values. The sanctity of *human life is a thousand times* greater than the sanctity of land."

According to Yehi-Shalom, Peace Now and Dor Shalem have the same goal – the preservation of human life. "We differ on the emphases and the nuances," he said. In fact, however, the differences between the movements make it hard for Dor Shalem to cooperate with Peace Now. "We believe in dialogue," he added. "But this togetherness is very difficult for us — and that is putting it mildly."

See LEFT, Page 18

Family feud

Are Labor and Meretz headed for a divorce? Or is the apparent distance between Ehud Barak and Yossi Sarid just a ploy to win votes for the center? Sarah Honig reports.

In calmer days it surely would not have gone unnoticed, but a warning issued this week by Meretz leader Yossi Sarid to Labor Party chairman Ehud Barak seemed to have somehow escaped public attention.

Sarid let Barak know in no uncertain terms that if he does not immediately desist from attacking Meretz's lack of Jewishness, he may in the next elections find himself running not only against incumbent Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, but also against a candidate fielded by forces left of Labor.

What nettled Sarid was an interview granted by Barak to *Yediot Aharonot*, in which Barak recommended that his party distance itself from Meretz to highlight its own Jewish roots.

"This is tantamount to casting aspersions on us by expressing doubt about our Jewish roots," Sarid said. "*This sounds a lot like* Netanyahu, and Barak has no more right to malign us than does Netanyahu, especially as Barak wasn't speaking privately, but for the record, with a clear intent to reap political profit."

The impression all this leaves is that of a Left in turmoil, plagued by discord and mutual recriminations. It appears to be at least at first glance a very far cry from the camaraderie and harmony evident following the signing of the Oslo Accords, and especially during the November 1995 Tel Aviv rally at which prime minister Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated. The entire Left then seemed to be on an idyllic honeymoon. Now it is torn by acrimony and bickering. In response to Barak's unkind cut, Sarid appeared ready to slap him with divorce papers.

Or at least he wanted it to look that way.

LABOR'S IN-HOUSE political scientist and historian, MK Shevah Weiss, admitted in a conversation with *The Jerusalem Post* that "for a while things had actually reached a degree of mellowness and even affection on the Left, which the Left had not known before. It wasn't just between Labor and Meretz, but also between Rabin and Shimon Peres.

"After they were both awarded the Nobel Peace Prize something seemed to have happened between them and old walls of adversity were tumbling down. It was touching to see them. There was also a significant process of drawing closer between Rabin and Sarid.

"During the intifada and the period in which Rabin was defense minister, Sarid was his harshest, most unrelenting critic and Rabin did not relish Sarid's ever-carping comments," Weiss recalled. "Things did not improve immediately after the formation of Rabin's 1992 government. Sarid was [at first] left out of that government and he harbored a deep, festering resentment. He did not spare Rabin his frequent acerbic tongue-lashings.

But after Sarid was admitted to the cabinet, and especially after Oslo, when Rabin seemed to be implementing the far Left's platform – indeed, after Rabin had undergone a perceptible metamorphosis – things changed between him and Sarid. There was no reason to bear animosity towards Rabin when he was doing what Meretz had always advocated. There was no cause for strife."

But even then, when relations seemed at their warmest, there were still underlying currents, Weiss explains.

"The last political argument which Rabin got into – perhaps no more than five minutes before he was shot – was with no other than Sarid," Weiss said.

The great peace rally at Kikar Malchei Yisrael had just concluded, and Rabin was very miffed by a large balloon that Meretz had sent up, which bore an inscription that credited Labor and Meretz with the peace agreements.

"Rabin got hold of Sarid just prior to descending the stairs and gave him a piece of his mind. He told him the peace deal was his own doing and Labor's, and that Meretz could claim no credit for an achievement that was not its to boast about. "Rabin was really angry and was getting red in the face. I stood there and witnessed all this and I sought to calm him down. I asked him to stop and said 'Yitzhak, it would be a great shame to mar this moment of unity and fraternity. Let it be.' He listened to me and reluctantly stopped scolding," Weiss said.

SARID SEES things differently.

"Labor and Meretz served in the same government and we did many great things together and battled for the same cause with the spirit of all for one and one for all. After all which my Meretz colleagues and I did in that government, Barak's behavior these days is cynically ungrateful.

"I recognize that he has his own expedient plans and that the association with Meretz may be something he would like to hide, so I am willing to overlook personal and collective insults, sting though they may. But there are positions to which the entire Left is committed and not all can be erased. I realize that Barak is seeking votes to the right of his party, but he must not take Meretz too much for granted.

"He cannot use us for whipping boys. He doesn't like what Netanyahu dishes out to him but he then has no right to turn around and beat up on Meretz. Barak would do well to remember the old saying: 'Don't do unto others what you don't like done to you.' *Objectionable pronouncements* don't sound any nicer when they come from Barak's lips rather than Netanyahu's," Sarid argued.

He told the *Post* that he doesn't want to see a Meretz candidate running against Barak in the next prime *ministerial campaign. "but I suggest* to him that he not question our Jewishness and force us against our will to look for another candidate."

Sarid does not deny Barak's right to distance himself from Meretz.

"We, after all, are two distinct parties with different agendas. We are by no means Siamese twins and Barak is a big boy now. He can freely choose his fellow travelers.

"But Meretz will not abandon its identity for him. Meretz stands for something and if Meretz did not rise against the religious parties, there is no telling what a tidal wave of religious coercion would be unleashed here."

Meretz, according to Sarid, is "a pragmatic party and it fully realizes that there are times in which certain flags need be lowered for the sake of political expediency, but we cannot agree that all flags be folded up on Barak's orders and concealed in Labor's dusty dark back rooms."

Sarid said he understands that Barak is trying to wrest support for the Likud in the Likud's own neighborhood, "but he must first make sure that his own side identifies with him. If he puts off those who would seem his natural followers, how will he attract the loyalty of others?"

WEISS, HOWEVER, claims Sarid and Meretz are feigning naivete.

"Barak is trying to get Labor back to power — plain and simple," Weiss said. "In that, he is doing the dirty work not only for Labor but for Meretz as well.

"If he doesn't succeed, Labor won't be left in the opposition alone. So will Meretz. Barak is working now so that Sarid and Amnon Rubinstein can be ministers yet again. They are riding on Barak's *coattails and the least Sarid and his* friends can do is not to shove their spokes in Barak's wheels."

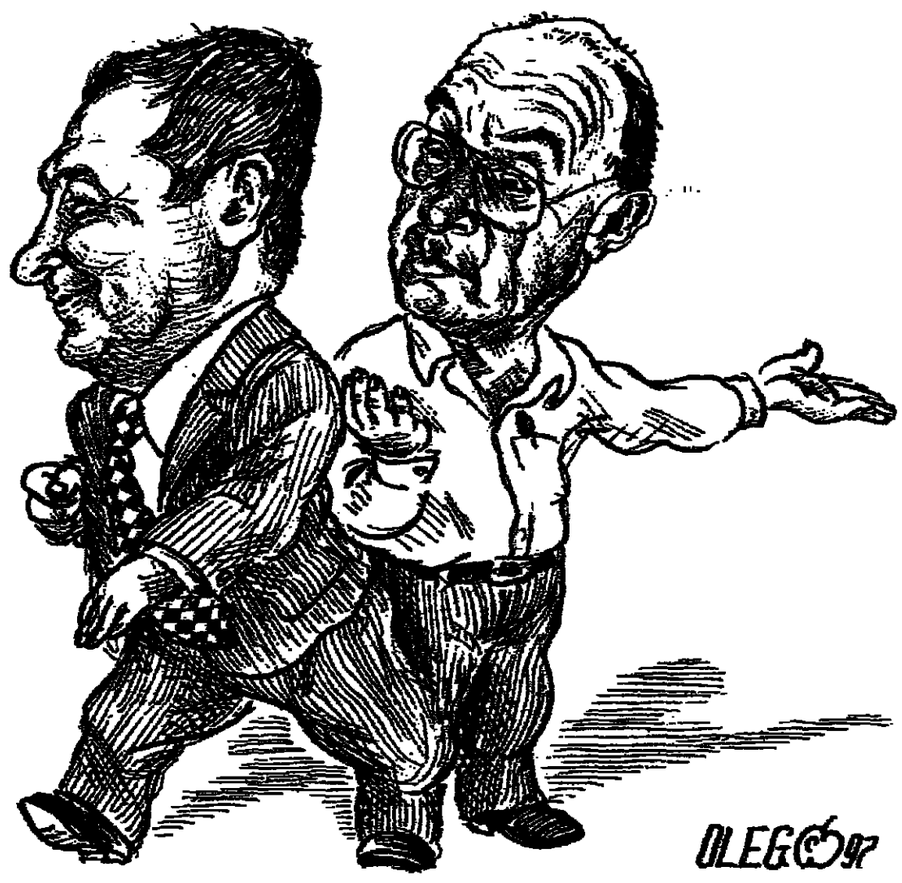
Weiss says Barak "analyzed what caused Labor's loss in 1996. He carefully went over the report I prepared. He agreed with me that the partnership with Meretz tainted us with antireligious and elitist stereotypes. Barak is trying to correct this and is working for the cause of the entire Left.

"He is essentially doing what Rabin did in 1992, when he went after the floating vote. The difference is that Barak needs to operate after Oslo and cannot appear as hawkish as Rabin did. He has no choice but to be more dovish than Rabin was in 1992."

More than just following in Rabin's footsteps, Barak, according to Weiss, "is reviving the old Mapai. Don't forget that it was Mapai which forged the historic agreement with the NRP, while Mapam – Meretz's forerunner – never conducted any sort of a dialogue with the religious parties.

"Meretz's outspoken anti-religious stance, frankly, hinders Barak's efforts. I suggested to Barak that he seek prior coordination on all his moves with Meretz and the Arab parties, so that there would be no misunderstanding. We need to divide the territory. They can concentrate on getting votes from the Left while we from the center. This way they would let Barak veer rightwards for tactical purposes and not impede him."

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هكذا من الاصل

Good morning, Lebanon

This year's high casualty toll has generated a raging debate about the wisdom of staying in south Lebanon. Soldiers there, however, seem to have no doubts about their mission. David Rudge reports from an outpost in the security zone.



An IDF soldier stands guard in south Lebanon. Always expect the unexpected is the adage that applies here. (IDF Spokesman)

A boom echoed around the military compound as two IAF warplanes, flying at high altitude, broke the sound barrier above the northern border as they headed into the skies over south Lebanon.

"Good morning, Lebanon," someone shouted, playing on the Hollywood movie of the life and times of American servicemen in Vietnam.

A short while later, an IDF convoy, destined to take troops and supplies to a position inside the security zone, assembled in the compound.

Among the troops waiting to join the convoy was Nathan Levinson, 25, a member of a Merkava tank crew, going to relieve colleagues at an outpost.

Levinson left his home in Florida and came here alone, joining the army at a relatively late age.

Home for him now, when he is on leave, is Kibbutz Ortal on the Golan Heights.

He believes Hizbullah's recent successes in penetrating the armor of the highly rated Merkava Mark II, hits that caused casualties, were simply cases of bad luck.

"If the guys had seen them and they'd had the time, they would have blown the terrorists away," said Levinson.

"The [Merkava] tank is one of the best in the world. Although nothing is impenetrable, we still feel pretty safe and secure inside. We know our job and if something happens we deal with it.

"You know that a few of your buddies have been killed and wounded, but you try not to think about that at all. You can't live or work like that in the army and especially not in a tank – thinking about what might happen if a missile were to hit.

"You focus on the positive things, joke around and be in a good mood and do the best you can. That's pretty well what it comes down to."

Levinson, who has been serving in south Lebanon for several months, maintains the same attitude when speaking to his parents in America.

"They are all right about me being here. They just ask me to be safe and take care of myself. I don't talk to them much about the bad things, just the positive aspects," he said.

The conversation was interrupted by a call to the soldiers and visiting journalists joining the convoy to assemble for a briefing before entering the security zone.

A supply convoy of this type is considered a "soft" target in the guerrilla war being waged primarily by Hizbullah against the IDF and South Lebanese Army. It is relatively slow-moving and exposed to long-range antitank missile fire, roadside explosive devices, car bombs, ambushes and even suicide attacks, depending on the terrain and the area. A convoy carrying soldiers is an even more "attractive" target.

All possible measures, therefore, are taken to ensure safe passage. This usually includes checking the route beforehand for mines or explosive devices and keeping a constant watch for any unusual activity.

There are no absolutes in Lebanon, however, and the adage "always expect the unexpected" is acutely applicable there.

For example, rocks and tree branches lining the roads might be just that. But they also might be hollowed out or made of fiberglass and packed with explosives, as well as metal ball bearings to increase the deadly effects.

Vehicles traveling along the same route or those parked by the side of the road are potential car bombs. Drivers and passengers might be suicide bombers, as could a man leading his donkey.

On this occasion, the convoy consisted of armored personnel carriers and Safari trucks. The lorries still have canvas-covered roofs, but the sides and bottom have been reinforced. The armor plating on the sides is interspersed with porthole-like windows of bullet-proof glass. Some of these had already been splintered in places.

The Safaris used in south Lebanon today are relatively well-protected, although everybody boarding wore flak jackets and helmets, as an added safety measure.

The briefing by the convoy commander, Lt. Raz, dealt with the distances to be kept between the vehicles, and how to react in the various circumstances that might arise, including, if necessary, the evacuation of casualties.

The briefing lasted over 10 minutes. Although the soldiers hear the same comments every time they enter or leave south Lebanon, they nevertheless listened attentively before going to their assigned tasks.

The conversation aboard our truck was desultory. Perhaps it was because of the harsh and grinding noise of the engine straining up the long, steep, winding road to the outpost, though it may have been for other reasons.

"I'm what you could call a combat driver who drives in certain circumstances that other drivers in the army don't have to face," said Gittai Barak, 20, from Haifa, who regularly goes into the security zone.

"A fool will tell you he is not afraid or not worried, but it is something you have to do. It's not an option.

"You have to be alert and look at the faces of people on the road and guess their next move. A suicide bomber is not generally calm. He would look worried and sweaty. You have to look for the signs.

"I always look to the side of the truck for any suspicious stones or rocks and I always look around when I come to a curve because that's the point where the terrorists are likely to try and fire missiles," said Barak, after reaching the outpost.

THIS outpost is not on the "front line" – the term used to describe those positions along the northern edge of the security zone.

It is situated on a ridge overlooking the Litani River, seen glinting dimly below, as it winds its way between the hills until it joins with Wadi Saluki – the scene of many recent clashes.

Birds of prey were hovering above the river at the time, tiny dots impossible to identify properly with the naked eye. The scene was pastoral, even breathtakingly beautiful.

The topography, however, is ideally suited for guerrilla warfare. The hills, wadis, rocks, bushes and trees provide an abundance of cover for gunmen.

On the Ali Tahr hill range directly opposite, on the other side of the Litani River valley, lies the village of Yochmour, with the IDF-held Beaufort Castle and adjacent Arnoun village nearby.

Yochmour and Arnoun are both "hostile" villages. No vehicles are allowed to travel inside Arnoun because of the potential threat to IDF convoys traveling up to the Beaufort. Yochmour has been used on many occasions by Hizbullah for firing and launching attacks at IDF and SLA targets in the zone.

Slightly to the south is Taibeh and more hostile areas; northwards the villages of Zarta al-Sharika and Zarta al-Arbiyeh, the market town of Nabatiya and other areas considered to be Hizbullah strongholds.

Behind the outpost lies Metulla, Kiryat Shmona and other northern communities, some of which can be seen from the ramparts.

The position has come under fire in the past. The outpost itself is dominated by the central bunker, a pyramid of stone blocks piled on top of one another to protect the soldiers' barracks inside.

The outpost is surrounded by ramparts reached by stairs, on the top of which are reinforced observation posts and firing points for light artillery, mortars and heavy machine guns. A tank and APCs are there to give support if necessary.

An alert exercise was conducted during the day. The speed with which the troops donned their own protective gear and battle pouches and, armed with weapons, raced to their appointed posts, indicated that this was something they had done – for practice and under fire – many times.

ON THIS occasion, the troops manning the outpost are members of the Golani Brigade, assisted by armored corps and ancillary personnel. The first thing one notices is that all of them, including the officers, are young.

Sec.-Lt. Amit, 21, is in charge of the position. It is a big responsibility, but he knows what he is doing and why he is there.

"I'm from Kiryat Shmona. Since childhood, I have seen the bombs and the Katyusha rockets. My being here is like completing the circle, because now I am helping to defend the northern communities," said Amit, whose father served in Lebanon before him.

The calls by some members of the public for unilateral withdrawal from Lebanon don't faze him.

"I can't blame the parents because there is nothing more painful than losing a child," said Amit. "I understand them and I don't think that they are saying these things against us, because inside, I'm sure, they all know the importance of us being here.

"In my opinion, it is preferable that it be us, the soldiers in uniform and with arms [that are hit] and not residents sitting quietly in their homes. At least they can be certain that nobody will attack them," he said.

The guerrilla war being waged in south Lebanon, however, does not make life easy for the soldiers. Amit noted that Hizbullah often fires from inside villages or on the outskirts of them, knowing the IDF would not retaliate for fear of harming innocent civilians. If it did and civilians were hurt, Hizbullah could then use the casualties as a pretext for Katyusha rocket attacks on the North, as it has done many times in the past.

SELF-DEFENSE, in the case of south Lebanon, often means not waiting for Hizbullah to come to you, but going out to meet them first.

Ro'i, 23, also started late in the army after returning to Israel from Boston, where his parents had moved several years ago and where they still live. He now lives in Bat Yam. He is one of the Negev machine-gunners in the unit.

Patrols and ambush operations in the field, often late at night, are aimed at trying to hit Hizbullah before it can carry out attacks.

"I believe in God and I'm certainly not scared to be here. The commanders are good and I trust them, as well as my comrades. We trained a lot before we came here. After a while you get tired of all the training and want to do the real thing," said Ro'i.

"I like to go out on ambushes, although unfortunately it's not that often that you are lucky enough to encounter Hizbullah. I still hope we will get our chance," said Ro'i.

Like Amit, he is convinced of the importance of the army's presence in the security zone despite the setbacks and the casualties.

Ro'i stressed that the army is making a great effort to better protect the positions and improve the amenities.

"The food is excellent and there are no problems with the water supplies," he said. "I saw pictures of what this position used to look like before. It was all bare, but now we have a lot of protected places and we feel secure."

Some people have compared the situation in south Lebanon to that of the Americans in Vietnam.

"I studied Vietnam when I lived in America and there is no comparison," said Ro'i. "We are not doing the job here for political reasons but because we have to. We are defending the northern communities, our own people, and stopping infiltrations into Israel, and we are winning."

Could an international force do the job as well as, if not better than, the IDF?

"I don't think so," Ro'i said. "They would not have the same motivation. If international troops were here and one of their positions was attacked, I'm sure they would just flee and then there would be nobody here to stop the terrorists."

WITH THE food, field rations and other equipment unloaded and the fresh troops having replaced those going on leave, the convoy was ready for the journey back.

Among those returning was David Stark, 21, who was headed home to Ma'aleh Adumim, to be with his family who immigrated from Los Angeles in 1994.

"I hope we will be on leave for a week," said Stark, a Merkava tank driver, who is on his third tour of duty in south Lebanon.

The sound of outgoing artillery fire echoed in the distance as the truck made its slow descent towards the international border. The firing might have been merely a weapons verification check – or something else. In south Lebanon it's not always possible to know for sure unless something happens close by.

"The situation here is not that of a continuous war, 24 hours a day and seven days a week. Nevertheless, you always try to maintain awareness as much as possible and be ready for whatever happens, because there's always the knowledge that something could happen," said Stark.

"Until it does happen, however, you don't think about things too much and then when finally it does, you react as you have been trained."

How are his parents handling his service?

"My mother is worried, but my dad handles it better. I don't really talk with them too much about the situation here.

"From the point of view of being here and stopping infiltrations, we are doing the job to the best of our ability and the results in that respect are pretty good.

"The fact that this has been a hard year for the IDF, which has taken a lot of hits recently, is the price that has to be paid. If you ask me, however, it's a worthwhile cause to protect the people living along the northern border," he added, shortly before the truck came to a stop, safely back in Israel.

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هكذا من الاصل



The clash: Israeli and Palestinian protesters demonstrate at Jerusalem's Ras al-Amud in mid-September, as border police guard the compound. (AP)

Inside Ras al-Amud

Only six weeks after the bedlam, life has become routine for the 10 young men living in this controversial building. Elli Wohlgelernter, the first journalist allowed into the compound since they moved in, reports on the quiet after the storm.

Forget about the police, forget the demonstrations for and against, the 24-hour protest tents, the swarm of media people camped outside waiting for something to happen.

Six weeks after 10 young men moved into the controversial building owned by Irving Moskowitz in Jerusalem's Ras al-Amud, Jewish life goes on there without any trace of the bedlam that erupted after three families moved in late one night in mid-September. Except for the policemen stationed right near the house, there is no indication that the property was recently at the epicenter of international political debate.

The first visit inside the compound by a journalist since the young men moved in reveals that the house has undergone substantial renovations. But what impresses a visitor most is the absolute quiet surrounding the house, and the seemingly normal lives the tenants are leading.

"It's become very quiet, thank God," said 25-year-old Michael, as he sat in the succa, eating a chicken lunch one afternoon last week. "Slowly, slowly, it's quieted down. The Arabs are getting used to the fact that we're here.

"We're also getting used to it. We buy stuff at their corner grocery, we say 'good morning, good afternoon' – we're trying to relate well with everyone.

"They know who we are. What will be? We don't know what will be. That's how it is now."

THE "Ras al-Amud 10" – all between 24 and 26 years old, wearing the knitted kippot of the national-religious camp – are living there as part of the compromise agreement worked out between the government and Moskowitz, the Miami millionaire who owns the building. Under the agreement, the three families moved out and were replaced with the young men.

Some members of the group work, others study at yeshiva or at the Hebrew University. According to Michael – who refused to give his last name – one tenant, who has direct contact with Moskowitz, formally rented the house from him, with three others signing the lease.

"We all pay rent, everyone joins in paying water, phone, electricity – whatever is used. We work it out between ourselves, like anybody sharing an apartment."

The flag flying on the roof marks the house from a distance. On the door – and around the house – are a dozen "Jerusalem is ours" stickers.

Inside the house, rooms that were in disrepair a month ago have been cleaned up. One large room has been divided into two smaller rooms and been painted, and an office has been built inside the adjoining garage. Walls have been plastered and electricity installed.

Outside, the backyard has been cleared of all debris, and the earth looks fresh for planting. There are new rings of barbed wire ready to be put up atop the outside wall, and floor tiles piled alongside the building waiting to be laid down.

Almost all of the work is being done by the tenants themselves.

"There was one person who's a professional and he showed the rest of us what to do," said Michael. "But many among us also have 'good hands,' so they didn't have a problem. There was an electrician, too, who volunteered his services, and also a plumber who came without charging, but overall, the work was done by all of us together."

The only thing they're missing, Michael said, is "a good washing machine and a good stereo. That's it. Perhaps also a microwave."

EACH MEMBER of the group takes turns keeping watch on the roof and in front of the house, where there are also private security guards. Near the wall surrounding the property sits a police jeep; two other security personnel sit at the edge of the property across the street, overlooking Silwan.

It is the security presence that most irks the Arab neighbors.

"We can't live normally here; it's very difficult because the police and Border Police are here all the time," said Birkan Fuaz, sitting in a car at the corner talking with a friend.

"They don't allow us to move around in our village freely, you understand? All the time they ask us for our identity cards, our car papers, [and] search us — how can we live with them?"

He said that the Jewish tenants don't acknowledge him when they walk by on the street.

"They look at you like you're a terrorist, I can see it in their eyes," he said.

From the time he was born in 1971, Fuaz said, all he heard was how the Jews had taken over Palestinian land in the 1967 war.

"The Jews are like a disease, they enter into neighborhood and take over one house, then after a month or two they take over another house, and more land, and more land," he said calmly.

"This is our land, and I understand only one thing: What they took, they took with force, but the day will come when we will take it back with force. Only in a war – we won't get it back with talk, with peace. There will never be a Palestinian state for us if we don't make war."

Fuaz also wanted to share a history lesson about the neighborhood: The Mount of Olives cemetery, he said, was land rented by the Jews from the Wakf 99 years ago.

"It wasn't rented as a cemetery, but they came and made it a cemetery, so that this land would remain theirs. Why? After the lease is up, we'll tell them 'take your dead bodies, we want the land back'? You can't do that.

"See how the Jews think? It's true they're smart, but we're smarter than them."

At the corner grocery, Ahmed Mohammed said the Jews come into his shop around twice a week, and are always friendly and polite.

"They speak cordially, we speak cordially to them," he said. "They buy and leave, we say 'Shalom, shalom, good morning, have a good day.' We're here to sell, how else should we talk?"

But he won't extend them credit, a common neighborhood courtesy.

"I don't know them," Mohammed said. "I give credit to people whom I know independently – a friend of mine, my nephew. If I don't know them, how can I give them credit? If they leave, how can I find them? The police are going to get him and bring him here?

"No. An Arab, I know where he lives, I know his brother, I know his father – so if he leaves, I know where to go for the money."

He said the neighbors are still angry over the way the building was moved into, because "this wasn't done in a proper fashion. If they had done it in a proper way, then they would be considered neighbors, like all neighbors."

Mohammed also complained that the security presence disrupts the neighborhood's day-to-day life, adding if the students' presence were truly normal, "there wouldn't be police here sitting with them and guarding them; they wouldn't have to have protection 24 hours a day."

WITH THE world media now ignoring the Moskowitz building, it's become just another quasi-dormitory for post-army bachelors.

"For me it's not a political issue," said Ami, a yeshiva student. "I live in this house and that's it. We don't see ourselves as political emissaries at all.

"I don't relate to all the political stuff – what the prime minister has said or hasn't, a compromise or no compromise – it's a place to live so I live here."

The issue for the young men, it seems, is not so much how the Arabs feel, but how their fellow Jews feel. Many people, they say, have stopped by to show their support, from the Golan Heights to Eilat, both religious and secular.

Secular?

"I'll tell you a story," said Michael. "I was someplace in Jerusalem asking for a donation. The landlord, a secular man, said to us: 'The truth is, I don't really identify with what you're doing.'

"I said to him, 'You know, there could be a difference of opinion over the expression it's taking, but since we're here already, don't you agree with me that it's Jerusalem, and Jerusalem is above everything else?' and he said to me, 'You know, you're right.' And he gave me a lot of money, a great deal indeed."

Because of all the support, the tenants don't feel isolated.

"I don't feel alone," said Michael. "I can see the Jewish Quarter, and 25 meters from here is the Sephardi graveyard of the Mount of Olives. That means that since people are buried here, people come here [to visit them] ... 100 meters below are the houses of the City of David, and there's a way to walk down there." The Western Wall, he said, is less than 15 minutes away.

Because of the 10-man limit imposed by the compromise, they only bring an overnight guest when someone goes away for a Shabbat.

But except for that restriction, "Normal life resumed after the hectic first two weeks," Michael said. "Someone who has a girlfriend goes to visit her, someone who studies goes to the university, someone else at a yeshiva goes to the yeshiva. We're normal people leading totally normal lives."



Ras al-Amud six weeks later: 'It's become very quiet.... The Arabs are getting used to the fact that we're here.' (Debbie Hill)

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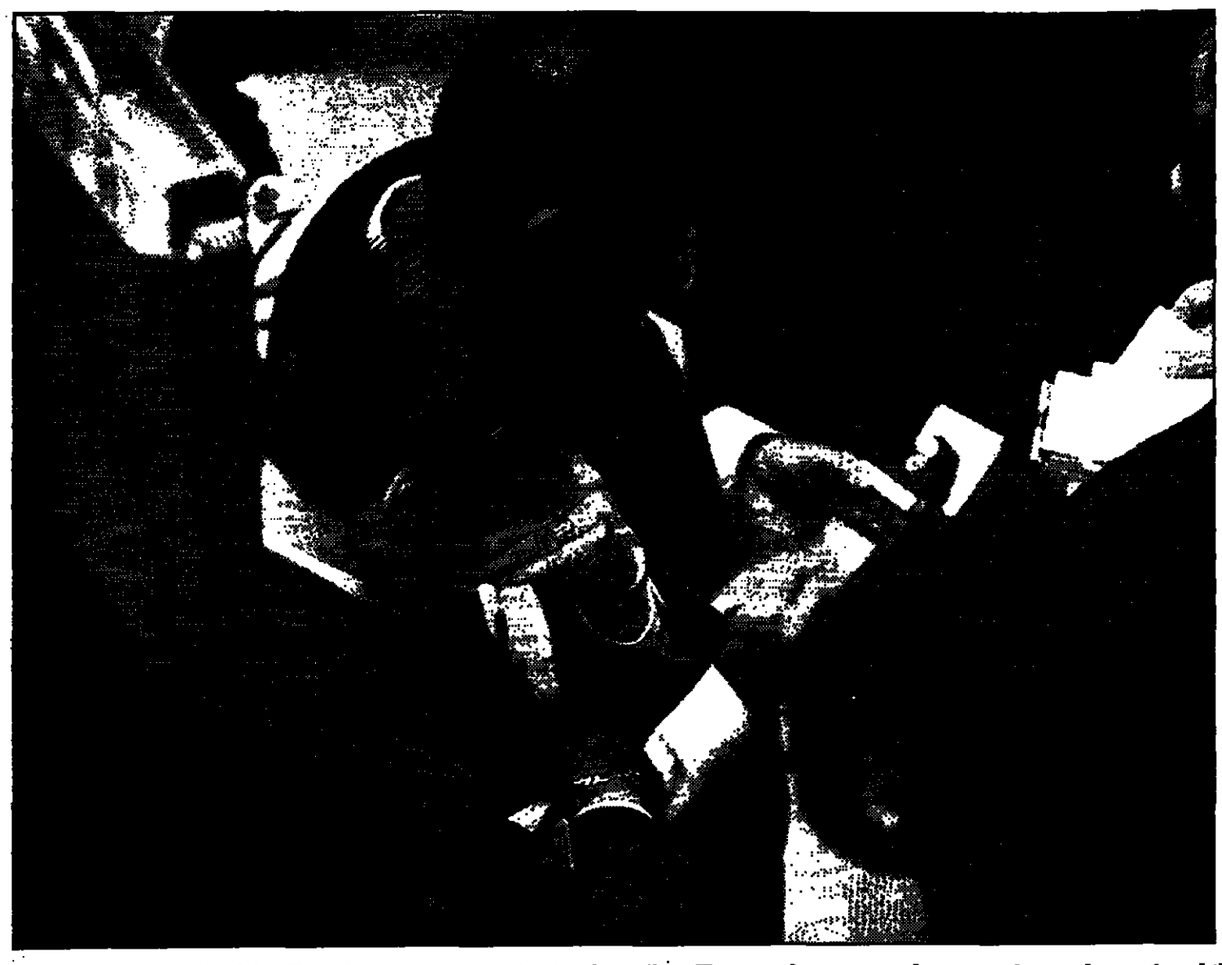
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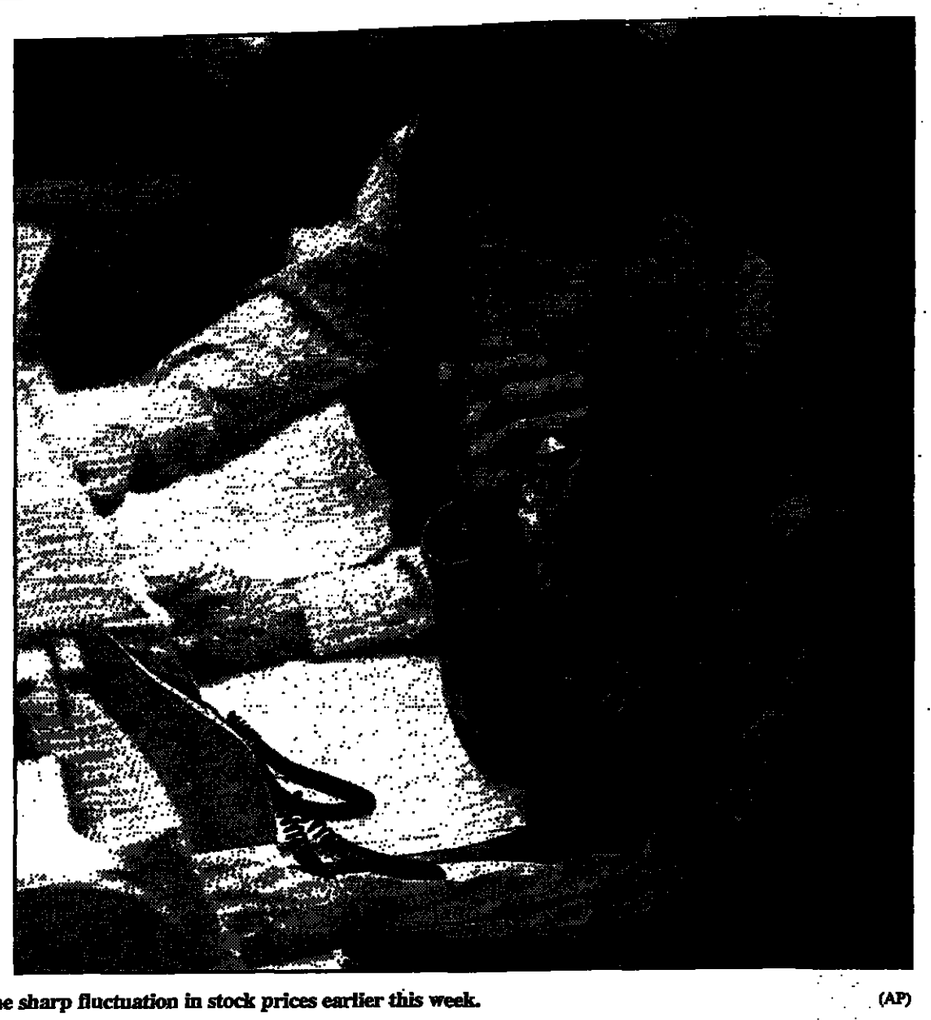
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Stock shock across the globe: From New York's Wall Street (left) to Hong Kong, traders expressed acute anxiety as they reviewed the sharp fluctuation in stock prices earlier this week. (AP)

All the world's a trade

This week's global financial turmoil has demonstrated the extent to which the world has adopted the open market system of the West, writes James Flanigan

The astounding worldwide stock market turmoil of the past week signals a watershed in global economic development. It is a demand by global investors that all countries adapt their economies to the dictates of open markets.

Just as the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 marked the triumph of the American political system over communism, so the latest crisis marks the triumph of the Western economic system of open markets over state-run economies.

Open market principles insist that countries such as China loosen state controls over industry and investment and allow international investors, in some real way, to be arbiters of its economic policies.

Indeed, it was international investor suspicion that stock prices of China's state-owned companies were inflated that led to the market crisis of the last week.

The crisis began in Hong Kong where investors saw the stock exchange increasingly introducing shares in Chinese companies that were not businesses in any traditional sense of the word. Rather, these so called Red Chip companies were corporate shells designed to raise capital through Hong Kong so that the Beijing government could inject assets into state-owned corporations and give them the appearance of private companies.

They were popular with investors with the approach of the July handover of Hong Kong to Chinese control, and such Red Chips quickly rose to a market value of $60 billion. But now Red Chips have tumbled in value along with other shares on Hong Kong's market.

It was the most dramatic demonstration yet of the new power of global stock market investors to dictate terms to ostensibly powerful governments. But it wasn't the only recent case of investor revolt.

Smaller nations, notably Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines, in July felt the lash of open market pressure. Global investors, in effect, objected to the way those countries took in the world's investments in their infant stock markets and then poured the funds into grandiose state projects or real estate developments of dubious economic value.

"This crisis will one day be seen as a milestone in the evolution of a truly global capital market," said Jeffrey Garten, dean of the Yale School of Management and a former US undersecretary of commerce.

"Markets can be great levelers," Garten adds. "They say to every country, if you want the world's money, we want investments that are reasonable, open, transparent and producing real returns."

That model of open companies, reporting to shareholders, making decisions on sound economic principles rather than national favoritism or because the project's developer is the brother-in-law of a government official, is one that the United States has long championed and largely lived by.

Its opposition in recent decades has come from the so-called Asian model of Japanese companies. They operated behind a wall of trade and investment restrictions to take advantage of access to open markets in the United States and other countries. But they do so without letting US companies enjoy access to its huge markets. US policy has fought for years to open up Japan's system, and that battle is finally achieving some success.

Japan has been forced by seven years of recession and continual international pressure to begin opening its financial system to foreign competition and to the free-market rule that investments earn a return.

But China presented a new and even larger Asian model. China's policy – announced in September by President Jiang Zemin, who met President Clinton in Washington this week – was to create 1,000 large state-owned companies. Some of them, Chinese officials declared, would qualify for the Fortune 500.

But they wouldn't be like IBM or other companies on that list of the largest corporations. If IBM wishes to raise money from stock investors it must issue a detailed prospectus explaining what it is going to do with the funds and how it plans to earn a return on investment. And government regulators must verify the claims in the prospectus.

China's companies, state-controlled in a system that does not believe in full disclosure, would not have to go through such explanations.

Rather, say numerous Western business negotiators in China, officials there seem to think the world's capital should be forthcoming simply because they want to build their planned infrastructure projects.

This crisis has come about because the world's investors have declared such terms unacceptable.

The markets' challenge to state economies has been met with howls of protest.

Malaysia's ruler, Mahathir Mohammed, and others in Asia have charged that their currency devaluations were forced by a conspiracy of speculators.

But the pension funds and mutual funds of the world are not speculators. By and large they are patient investors seeking to earn returns with which to pay pensions and social benefits to their clients.

The pension and mutual funds, now grown to trillions of dollars in size, represent something relatively new in the world. Each day enormous sums whirl across the globe ceaselessly investing in currencies, stocks and bonds of every nation.

Ultimately, those investment ultimately determine everything from the interest rate on your mortgage to the employment of a nation's workers and the living standards of its citizens.

To be sure, Malaysia, Thailand and other countries might well be genuinely puzzled by the workings of those investment flows. After all, Thailand and Malaysia scarcely had a stock market 10 years ago.

Investment capital in developing countries was allocated by the central state government or, as in most cases, it didn't exist at all.

But the global spread of technology, which has given workers in developing countries training to work on sophisticated machines making products for the world markets, has changed all that.

All of a sudden, ancient societies became involved in the global markets for goods and services, and global markets for capital. The new money pushed up living standards very fast, making people believe they had discovered a new way to mine gold.

But in this crisis, those new nations in the world economy are learning that access to global capital carries with it rules and responsibilities — to use the capital efficiently and in ways that produce a return for investors.

Yet developing countries are not the only ones being taught lessons in this crisis. France, and other countries of Europe, have suffered economic setbacks because their customers in Asia have had to devalue their currencies and throttle back their economies

According to Joanne Perez, Paris-based economist for Merrill Lynch, "Europe has built its whole recovery scenario on exports. A lot of the potential European export markets are at risk."

The very unison with which markets fell precipitously in Asia and then around the world, and now seem to be recovering in concert, testify to that interconnectedness.

Indeed, the United States, too, can anticipate fallout from the crisis. Many economic experts are predicting that the low wage countries of Asia, their costs reduced even further by currency devaluations, will now try to regain economic health by pouring out exports to the big and open US market.

It's not news that the US economy endures competitive pressures because it does largely play by the free market rules of free trade and open disclosure. But in the world economy emerging for the 21st century, the spread of open markets will support US interests which lie with a world where investments can earn returns and trade can be on rational terms.

Japan discovered the value of open markets when its financial system failed to produce the investment gains needed for pensions for its aging population. That's why Japan is deregulating that financial system today, opening it to participation by US and other foreign companies.

"The hope is to raise the average return on pension investments," said Eisuke Sakakibara, vice minister of finance, at a recent World Economic Forum meeting in Hong Kong. (LA Times)

Tel Aviv joins the world

By DAN GERSTENFELD

The dramatic decline of the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange on Tuesday demonstrated once more that the local financial market is no longer isolated from events taking place thousands of miles away on the world's leading trading floors.

The first buds of this phenomenon were evident already in October 1987, when the local market was jolted following Wall Street's crash. This week's experience seemed to have impressed local market players much more deeply.

The initial reaction of the Tel Aviv stock market to Tuesday's 7 percent decline in New York was a sharp fall of 9.86% in the benchmark Mishtanim index, its biggest one-day fall in more than three years.

"You could feel a real panic in the market. This was our welcoming reception to the world markets and we learned for the first time what it means to be caught in a global hysteria," said Michael Weiss, investment manager at Evergreen Capital Markets.

Eli Nahum, head of trading at Zannex Securities, sees the market's reaction to Wall Street's decline as a healthy development. "Once more we got proof that we are part of the global village and I personally felt great knowing that we are also part of all this. I would have felt lousy if all the stock markets abroad fell and we didn't join in. We have to be satisfied knowing that Israel is no longer isolated from what's happening abroad."

With more than 100 Israeli companies now traded abroad, there is a constantly growing correlation between what happens in the trading halls of Rehov Ahad Ha'am and what happens elsewhere in world markets.

The steep increase in foreign investments, seen after the signing of the Oslo Accords in 1993, has contributed to this correlation. The World Bank's decision to include Israel, as of November 1, in the International Financial Corporation's index of emerging markets attests to this change. The inclusion is expected to draw more investments to the TASE as many global funds are obliged to invest in countries represented in the IFC index.

Foreign investors are currently believed to hold about 4% of the stocks traded in the TASE, which represents almost 12% of the free float in the market.

Despite the recent interactivity between the local market and the global markets, analysts believe that in the long term the impact on local investors should be minimal, and the direction of the local market will be dictated by the fundamental economic developments in the Israeli economy.

"The American market is overpriced and the Israeli one is traded at a discount of 10 to 20%," Weiss said. "In the long term the direction of the market will be based only on its economical value."

"All the fundamentals support the continuation of a positive trend. Events in Wall Street affect the market only when something dramatic happens. If nothing of this kind happens abroad the Israeli market will continue to attract investors even if the American market posts a slow decline," Nahum said.

Unfortunately, the globalization process only seems to rear its head when world markets face downturns. Three years ago, as Wall Street started surging, the local market remained listless.

Traders are now hoping that, should Wall Street enter tough times, Israeli markets will avoid that punishment.

"Since we were never invited to the wedding I hope we won't have to attend the funeral," a Tel Aviv trader said.

THE JERUSALEM POST

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MIDDLE ISRAEL



Atop the Tower of Babel

By AMOTZ ASA-EL

Considering that the 1929 stock-market crash took place when the weekly Torah portion was *Noah*, it is quite possible that when newly bankrupt financial dilettantes were jumping off Manhattan skyscrapers, worshipers in nearby synagogues were reading about the flood which nearly wiped out humanity.

As history's whims go, that same portion accompanied the Dow Jones industrial average's 22-percent daily plunge in October 1987, and this week's cosmic financial mayhem.

Surely, if one is into omens, amulets, witchcraft and the rest of Rabbi Kadouri's spiritual pantry, then this may bear some, even a lot, of meaning. Otherwise, what happened this week is nothing like 1929. If anything, its echoes in this week's portion are to be sought in the Tower of Babel.

Just how the Great Crash sent the whole industrialized world into its worst-ever economic nightmare has been the subject of extensive literature, but a few undisputed facts should calm the pessimists among us.

First, between 1929 and 1933 – when US unemployment soared from 3.2 to 25% – the government failed to reduce the price of money. The dearth of fresh cash, following the failure of numerous banks, resulted in a 27% decline in the amount of money that circulated in the US during the four years that preceded Franklin Roosevelt's presidency.

Had interest rates been lowered, employers would have had easier access to capital with which new jobs could be created, and consumers would have had more credit with which to revive lagging demand. Instead, productivity and demand became so listless that industrial output and consumer prices plunged 29 and 24%, respectively.

Unemployed people who, for instance, took mortgages in 1928 could not meet their commitments not only because they lost the wages with which they had financed their installments but also because there were no buyers for their houses.

Secondly, in a colossally ill-advised response to the crisis, president Herbert Hoover sharply raised taxes (from 25 to 63% in the uppermost percentiles) in a move aimed at closing the budget deficit, which in turn had resulted from the costs of dealing with the crash itself.

Thirdly, Hoover raised tariffs in response to populist pressure, a move which made other countries follow suit. Consequently, besides being at a loss to find demand at home, manufacturers were discouraged from seeking markets abroad.

Finally, investors in the 1920s behaved so naively with their money that they frivolously placed huge chunks of their resources in the stock market – frequently all they had, and often much more than that. For most of them, a hard market crash was not even a theoretical prospect. When it did happen, it generated a debilitating pessimism that made both investors and consumers shun the marketplace.

With the benefit of hindsight, today's economic decision-makers avoid the pitfalls Hoover fell into after the Crash. The best proof of that is the 1987 market plunge in terms of its magnitude — a loss, within less than a week, of some 33% of the market's overall value — 1987 resembled the Crash of '29. However, in 1987 the US Federal Reserve (the equivalent of our Bank of Israel) quickly took action to resupply the banking industry with money, while the Treasury dared not raise taxes, and trade authorities left tariff limits intact. The result was a soft landing which hardly affected the overall economy.

Meanwhile, the retail investors, too, drew the right conclusions from the frivolity of previous generations. Clearly, they know better today than to gamble too much of their available income, let alone their unavailable resources, on stocks.

WHAT MAKES this week's market turmoil so fascinating is not its potential to destroy economies but the universality and speed with which it struck.

Having swept like wildfire through thousands upon thousands of Asian, European, American and Middle Eastern brokers' modems, beepers, and computer screens, this financial El Nino was a global cyber-crash.

Besides not resembling Noah's flood, this week's events shed light on a generation increasingly striving to emulate the Babel-tower builders' "earth of one language and one speech."

From Levi's jeans, Nike sneakers, MTV music clips, McDonald's cheeseburgers, Microsoft Windows and Compaq laptops to stocks, options, currencies, commodities, bonds and derivatives, ours is a world increasingly producing, trading and consuming similar products. In stark contrast to those 1929ers, today's world obsessively slashes tariffs, levels border fences, unifies currencies and desperately seeks far-flung emerging markets in which to invest its capital.

The Tower of Babel is among the Bible's more enigmatic tales. On the one hand its builders were punished, on the other hand it isn't clear why, while it is clear that their punishment – impairing their ability to communicate with each other – was not nearly as severe as that of Noah's generation of sinners, which was annihilated.

Classical Jewish commentary said the Tower builders sought to challenge God through their presumptuous endeavor. Some contemporary thinkers found in Noah's generation – described as "corrupt" and "filled with violence" – echoes of modern promiscuity, nihilism and hedonism. In the Tower-builders, meanwhile, they saw a type of 20th-century fascists who built monumental behemoths as part of a mindframe which challenged God, regimentalized man, and trampled on freedom.

Is our *fin-de-siècle* global marketplace – with its insatiable worship of "growth," dizzying geographic diversity, and remarkable replacement of phonetics with brokers' hand-signs and traders' electronic orders – a version of the Tower of Babel?

On the contrary.

Yes, today's financial marketplace is fueled by man's age-old quest for greed, power and prominence. However, as a system it aims to hurt no one, least of all God; as an economic engine it helps develop the underdeveloped world; and as a culture it offers a global lingua franca, thus regaining some of what was lost in the abrupt aftermath of Babel's tower of heretics, when God "confounded their language, that they may not understand one another's speech" and ultimately "scattered them abroad upon the face of all the earth."

In a world often dominated by discord, strife and bigotry, today's trading floors offer a universalist ray of hope.

Thanks to Allison Kaplan Sommer for drawing my attention to Noah's part in this week's turmoil.

Dry Bones



A VIEW FROM NOV



Of grasshoppers and doctored truth

By MOSHE KOHN

Self-love, my liege, is not so vile a sin / As self-neglecting.

Dauphin to Charles VI, in Shakespeare, *King Henry the Fifth*, II:4

Meir Shalev, 49, is one of Israel's most brilliant and successful writers of both adults' and children's stories – successful both in Hebrew and in translation into various languages. He is also a brilliant polemicist, wielding his mordant wit every Friday in the daily *Yediot Aharonot* directing it against some of our Establishments, mainly, of course, against the Orthodox and political right-wing Establishments.

He did so again last Friday, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's whispered comment to Rabbi Yitzhak Kadouri on October 20 about the alleged Jewish amnesia of our leftists. In that whisper, which was heard around the world, Netanyahu also compared our leftists to the 10 evil-tonguing spies of the Torah story (Numbers 13-14). Those 10 were responsible for the fact that the generation that Moses led out of Egypt did not live to enter the Promised Land, but died in the wilderness.

"If I were Bibi, I'd be wary of mentioning the affair of the spies," Shalev stated as he opened his critique. "More than anything else, this affair is a tale of failure, disgrace and lack of experience. And the characteristics of that failure, as well as the means used to cope with them, remind us not of the Israeli left, but *davka* of the blunders of our miserable government of today."

If I were Shalev, I'd be wary of discussing the affair of the spies, or any other matter, biblical or otherwise, before thoroughly familiarizing myself with the facts. I would certainly try to avoid scoring points by misrepresenting the facts.

What are the facts?

As Shalev reported, Moses sent 12 spies, one from each Israelite tribe, to scout out the Promised Land, Canaan, and report back on its condition and on the state of military preparedness of its inhabitants.

At this point, Shalev and the truth parted ways, apparently because he wished once more to make a historical-revisionist, anti-biblical point, this time about whether intelligence officials should stick to facts or also give assessments. He wrote that 10 of the spies "followed instructions, but two – Caleb and Joshua – went beyond their mandate and added assessments – 'Let us go up and possess [the land], for we are well able to overcome [them].'"

Shalev added: "The argument that then erupted between the two sets of spies, and between them and the government [*sic!*] caused serious demoralization among the people and postponement of the invasion and conquest."

First of all, like Shalev, those 10 spies did not stick to the facts. They reported: "The people inhabiting the land is a fierce one."

How did they know?

Then they compared themselves to the local inhabitants, saying, "We felt like grasshoppers [compared to them], and that is how we looked to them."

How did they know how they looked to the "gigantic" natives? How did they know the latter weren't terrified by the Israelites, as were the Moabites (Numbers 22)?

As for the demoralization Shalev mentions – that wasn't caused by the argument between the two sets of spies. It was caused by the pessimistic, defeatist report of the 10. The people didn't complain about the argument, but about the prospect of meeting the "gigantic" Canaanites in battle, and they wanted to replace Moses with someone who would lead them back to Egypt.

As for Joshua and Caleb – as often happens to optimists, the people wanted to stone them. "Humankind," the Catholic thinker and novelist, Father Andrew Greeley, has written, "does not object to prophets of doom, for the evidence is that doom is all around. No, the kind of leaders we really object to are those who ... tell us that ... the powers of evil can be repelled. Religious and political leaders who preach a message of hope are never very welcome, for they require of us more than cynicism, more than despair, more than resignation. They require effort, activity, fidelity, commitment."

To which we may add the words of the German Lutheran theologian, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who was imprisoned and executed by the Nazis: "The essence of optimism is that it takes no account of the present, but it is a source of inspiration, of vitality and hope where others have resigned: it enables a man to hold his head high, to claim the future for himself and not to abandon it to his enemy" (*Prisoner for God: Letters and Papers from Prison*).

ALSO CONTRARY to Shalev, the Israelite invasion of Canaan was not postponed because of the argument. The postponement was decided upon higher up because the people showed clearly that they were not yet ready to stand up and fight for their place in the world, and not ready for sovereignty and its responsibilities and privileges.

After the report of the 10, the Torah tells us, "The people wept all that night." And they said: "Why, it is better for us to return to Egypt. Let's appoint a leader, and let us go back to Egypt."

The next day the people, apparently in a fit of bravado to atone for their grasshopper-like behavior, and against Moses' express advice, sent an advance force to launch the invasion of Canaan. They were routed by an Amalekite-Canaanite alliance.

The Talmudic Sages comment on their weeping: "'That night' was the night of the ninth of Av – Tisha Be'av – and God decreed that the Temple would be destroyed on that date, saying to the weeping mass: 'You wept this night when you had no cause to weep?! I will give you something to cry about good and long!'"

The classical Jewish commentators observe that those 10 spies told no lies and did not deviate from the facts, except for their unfounded assessment that the inhabitants of Canaan were invincible, and their groundless assertion that the enemy saw them "as grasshoppers." (See Mishna *Taanit* 4:6, *Sota* 35a, *Sanhedrin* 104b, *Bemidbar Rabba* 16:5, 6, 11; *Tanhuma*, Buber edition, "Shelah").

And the 19th-century hassidic leader, Rabbi Menahem Mendel Morgenstern of Kotzk, said that reporting facts, however accurately, is not yet telling a truth. To tell the truth, you must first strive to see what deeper, Divine meaning may be behind some apparently unpleasant, discouraging "facts" (paraphrased by me from *Emet Mikotzk Titzmah*, Bnai Brak, 5721/1961).

BUT WHEN will we have a leadership, both in the Establishment and in the opposition, who will have the courage to dissociate themselves from pronouncers of magical blessings, utterers of execrations, and issuers of talismans?

We need a coalition of leaders from all sectors willing to unite to prevent us from relapsing further into our idolatry of First Commonwealth days and to reverse our relapse into the destructive hatred of Second Commonwealth days.

E-mail comments to: moshe@jpost.co.il. Please include home address.

SHABBAT SHALOM



Relatively righteous

Parshat Noah

By SHLOMO RISKIN

"Noah was in his generations a righteous man [tzaddik] and whole-hearted; Noah walked with God." (Gen. 6:9)

Was Noah a righteous man? When we examine the opening verse of this week's portion, quoted above, it looks like an open-and-shut case. And yet Rashi alerts us to the fact that while certain sages looked upon Noah favorably, others were far less generous.

The text stresses Noah's righteousness in "his generations." Perhaps this means to imply that if he could be so worthy of praise in a generation completely evil "how much more praiseworthy would he have been in the generation of Abraham, when he would have had righteous company." Or perhaps the implication is that "only in his generation of scoundrels was he worthy of praise, but had he lived in the generation of Abraham, he would not even be worthy of mention!" (B.T. *Sanhedrin* 108a)

The only possible justification for the negative interpretation comes from comparing Noah and Abraham.

When Abraham is told that the wicked cities of Sodom and Gomorrah are about to be destroyed, he argues with the Almighty as though he were bargaining in the marketplace. Abraham later emerges as the missionary who opens his doors in every direction to welcome and influence as many as possible!

Noah, on the other hand, is informed of the impending destruction of the world – and obediently goes about constructing a private ark to rescue himself, his family, and a number of animals.

Whether one belongs to the *camp of Abraham or to the camp* of Noah speaks volumes about one's outlook on Judaism vis-a-vis the modern world.

Hassidism, which certainly began as an outreach movement to the masses of common Jews, usually sided with Abraham. Hence, Rabbi Jacob Joseph, famous disciple of the Baal Shem Tov (the founder of Hassidism), writes in his *Toldot* that Noah "walked with God" – but, in concentrating on the Divine, he tragically neglected the people.

The Ktav Sofer, on the other hand, reacting to the Reform movement by turning inward, writes that Noah was wise and absolutely right in maintaining the wall between himself and the world. He had good reason to fear that if he tried to change the prevailing winds, he might survive, but his own children would be in danger.

The Ktav Sofer gives as proof the fact that the prophet Samuel preached all over Israel and would return home for only one visit each year: this was the direct cause, he argues, of the backsliding of Samuel's children, who were deemed unworthy of inheriting their father's mantle.

The Ktav Sofer's view follows that of his father, the Hatam Sofer (1762-1839), one of the major leaders of Ashkenazi Jewry, who fought hard against the breaches being made in traditional Judaism and insisted that *hadash* – anything new – (a play on the term for wheat harvested before the 16th day of Nisan) is forbidden by the Torah.

Must we open our doors to the straying sheep of Israel, or dare we not take the chance of our own children becoming influenced?

I believe that the correct balance is suggested by the Akedat Yitzhak (Rabbi Yitzhak Arama, 1420-1494), who comments on the *mishna*: "Rabban Shimon ben Gamliel says: The world endures on three things: justice, truth and peace." (*Avot* 1:18) Justice, he explains, should characterize the relationship between a Jew and the world at large; peace refers to the relationship between a Jew and his home.

As a source for his interpretation, the Akedat Yitzhak turns to the lesson taught by Jethro to Moses. We all know that Jethro's advice changes the entire structure of Moses' administering justice. Instead of Moses taking the entire burden upon his own shoulders, which Jethro correctly saw was destroying Moses as well as the judicial system, the son-in-law heeds his father-in-law's admonition: "And Moses chose able men out of all Israel, and made them heads over the people." (Ex. 18:25)

But is this all that Jethro taught Moses? If we look at the beginning of the encounter between Jethro and Moses, we find a more subtle purpose behind Jethro's confrontation.

"Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, took *Zipporah, Moses' wife, after* he had sent her away, and her two sons ... and Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, came with his sons and with his wife unto Moses ... and he said unto Moses: 'I, your father-in-law Jethro, am coming to you, and your wife and your two sons with her (Ex 18: 1-6)'"

The repetition of the word father-in-law, and the repeated references to Moses' wife and sons, are there for a purpose. When Moses went on his mission to Pharaoh, he left his family behind. In effect, Moses gave up his family to minister to the Jewish nation. And indeed, if he is to be the sole judge and adviser, he would have absolutely no time left over for personal life!

According to the Akedat Yitzhak, Jethro was therefore teaching Moses that if he set up the system properly, he would not only establish a much more efficient judicial organization, but he would have time to be a husband and father as well.

Even more to the point, Jethro is saying that first a leader must discharge his familial obligations, and only then does he have the right and ability to tackle society at large. One's first responsibility is to his own family. The day will always arrive when it becomes necessary to turn the closed ship into an open tent, to turn the Noahide perspective into the Abrahamic ideal.

Shabbat Shalom

The Council of Young Israel Rabbis
FOURTH ANNUAL RECEPTION & DINNER
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(8 Tevet 5758)
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November 9th, 8:00pm
To be followed by dialogue.
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Opening discussion:
Hirsh Goodman
Jerusalem Report, Editor
Rabbi Dr. Aaron Adler
Neve Orot Synagogue, Ramot
Yeshivat Ner Tamid, Hashmonaim
Moderator: Sheila Zucker
Journalist, IBA News

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Queries should be addressed to Rabbanite Leibovitz, Tel. 02-5001632

SAVE WATER

DRIVE CAREFULLY

Jew vs. Jew: A historical perspective

As the battle rages over 'who is a Jew,' Abraham Rabinovich explores past rifts that threatened the Jewish people, and tries to assess the danger today.

As frigid as the Lithuanian winter of 1772 was, it was not as cold as the reception two hassidic rabbis received when they knocked on the door of the Gaon of Vilna. The Gaon, the most venerated rabbinic authority of his time, opened the door and promptly slammed it shut in their faces. When they appeared at his door a second time, the sage slammed it shut again.

That encounter heralded the bitter conflict between *hassidism* and *mitnagdim* that would tear apart Eastern European Jewry for decades.

The Jewish people over the millennia has periodically faced the prospect of a permanent split within its ranks. Lasting divisions on a massive scale were somehow avoided, apart from the separation in early biblical times of Israel and Judah into two nations, one of which would disappear. The relative firmness of Jewish unity reflected by this history does not necessarily provide a comforting precedent for the current controversy between the Orthodox on one hand and the Conservative and Reform movements on the other.

In its scale and in the depth of the halachic fault line, the present conflict may be the most dangerous threat to Jewish unity in two millennia. The past conflicts, however, do indicate that seemingly intractable disputes can sometimes turn into something less threatening over time.

During the Second Temple period, the Jews were divided by deep-seated differences into three main groupings — Pharisees, Sadducees, and Essenes. The latter in particular had an ideology and practices that set it far apart. It even had its own calendar, which meant that holidays, including Yom Kippur, were not marked together with the rest of the nation.

While some Jews during that period accepted the conversion of Gentiles into the Jewish fold, notes Prof. Daniel Schwartz of the Hebrew University, others did not. Just as priests were priests by virtue of birth, there were some who felt that if you weren't born a Jew you couldn't be a Jew. Even King Herod, whose grandfather had converted to Judaism, and Herod's grandson, Agrippas I, would be dismissed by some as non-Jews or half-Jews.

It was the destruction of the temple that kept these differences from leading to a permanent split, suggests Schwartz. Both the Sadducees and Essenes were priestly parties and without a temple to serve or the prospect of one, they faded from history. Rabbinic Judaism, unattached to a temple or the notion of personal status deriving from birth, gave the Jews the flexibility to survive during 1,900 years of exile and to easily accept the conversion of Gentiles into its ranks.

The parallel between that period and today is not exact, says Schwartz. "Back then you had one group believing that the other groups were doing it wrong, but they never denied that the other groups were Jewish. It is different if you have large numbers of people whose Jewishness is not recognized by others."

The Karaite schism, which began in the eighth century CE, likewise involved deep-seated differences but no irredeemable rift. Founded by Anan, a disappointed candidate for the leadership of the Jewish community in Babylonia, the sect shunned the Talmud and any laws derived from it, basing its religious beliefs entirely on interpretation of the Bible. The Karaites, too, followed their own calendar and embraced an asceticism regarded as perverse by mainline, or Rabbanite, Jews. They did not permit fires to be lit for the Sabbath, for instance, and spent Friday nights in darkness and cold. Initially, the two camps viewed each other as heretic, refused to pray with each other, or to enter into marriage with partners from the other side. The conflict was sometimes violent and may even have included killings.

The Karaites proselytized vigorously among the Jews and soon had strong communities throughout the East and in Europe. Karaites were among the wealthiest and most influential Jews in Egypt. Of the three synagogues in medieval Cairo, one was Karaite. In Jerusalem, as many as half the Jews may have been Karaites.

Gradually, attitudes changed. The Cairo Geniza has produced more than half a dozen marriage contracts between Karaites and Rabbanites in which the two sides pledge to honor the religious practices of the other. (A Karaite wife, for instance, would not be obliged to light Sabbath candles for a Rabbanite husband.) Prof. Haggai Ben-Shammai of Hebrew University notes that this liberal approach changed by the 16th century when both Ashkenazi and Sephardi rabbinical authorities (except in Egypt) maintained that since Karaite divorces were not conducted according to Rabbanite Halacha, there was a chance that the children of women who remarried, and the descendents of those children, would be *mamzerim* – i.e., religiously illicit offspring and therefore non-marriageable.

The Karaites, for their part, would in time moderate some of their practices and permit themselves light on the Sabbath, even lighting Sabbath candles but without pronouncing a blessing. Parts of Russia were once Karaite bastions. Almost all the Karaites who have come from there in the recent mass immigration have joined the mainstream Jewish community in Israel rather than the small Karaite community that still exists here, notes Ben-Shammai.

The fierceness of the dispute between Hassidim and their opponents that began in the 18th century can be measured by the leading role played by the Vilna Gaon, an ascetic scholar who normally avoided political issues. It was, in fact, the Gaon himself who initiated the unrelenting campaign against the Hassidim, says Prof. Immanuel Etkes of Hebrew University.

The hassidic movement had started only a few years before in the Ukraine under the charismatic leadership of the Baal Shem Tov. The Vilna Gaon heard about it from rabbinical scholars living in White Russia to which the movement had spread. According to Etkes, the Gaon was told that the Hassidim despised scholars and gave gravely distorted interpretations to the mystic writings of the Kabbala. In addition, their practices seemed weird to the point of madness. Their ecstatic prayer involved shouting and jumping and, in some cases, Hassidim preceded prayers with handstands in order to purge their ego by acts of apparent foolishness. One of the Baal Shem Tov's most startling innovations was his total rejection of ascetism, including fasting. A Hassidic document says "the pleasures of this world were not created only for the wicked."

Etkes believes that beyond these reports, the Vilna Gaon linked the Hassidim with the trauma left behind by Shabtai Zvi the previous century. That self-proclaimed Messiah, who had persuaded much of the Jewish people to believe in him, converted to Islam when the Ottoman authorities threatened him with execution. Many of his followers, however, continued to believe in him. Underground Sabbatean groups were still active a century later when another charismatic eccentric, Jacob Frank, recruited them to his own movement. Proclaiming the period to be one of Messianic redemption, Frank ruled that in such a time, forbidden acts were not only permitted but were a commandment, a "mitzva." These acts included sexual orgies and the eating of non-kosher food. When the authorities cracked down on the Frankists, they sought protection of church officials by agreeing to testify that Jews were using the blood of Christian children in the making of *matzot*.

"No doubt the Gaon suspected that the Hassidim were a sect like the Frankists," says Etkes. "He believed that hassidic leaders could perform miracles but that these did not derive from holiness but rather from satanic powers." The two hassidic rabbis from White Russia who called on the Gaon in 1772 were attempting to forestall his declaration against them, which they had learned was in the making. A few months later, the leaders of the Vilna community, including the Gaon, formally proclaimed Hassidism to be heresy.

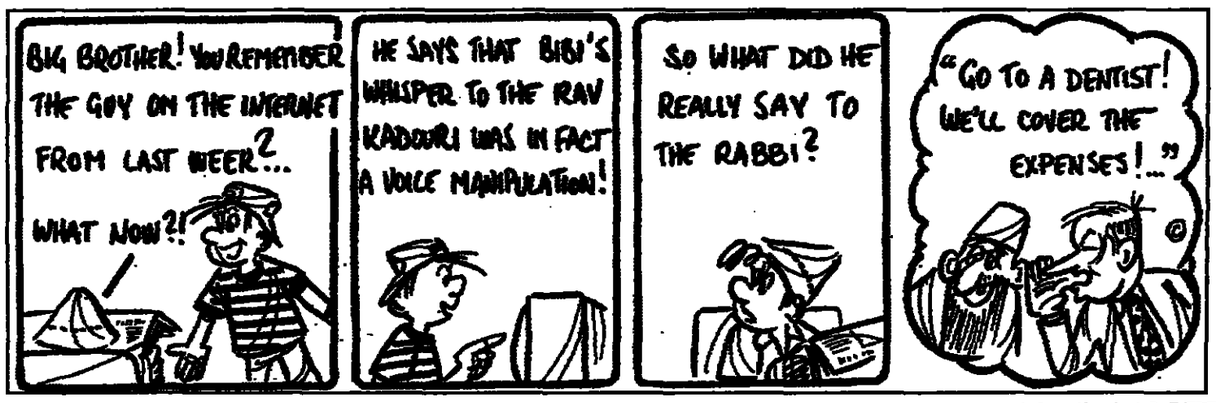
The conflict between Hassidim and their opponents lasted for three decades. It included economic boycotts, threats of excommunication and bans on hassidic prayers by many Jewish communities. Under the Vilna Gaon's successor, Hayim of Volozin, the conflict became less emotional and more intellectual. "He acknowledged that the Hassidim are not heretics and that they have positive motivation even though they were headed in a dangerous direction," says Etkes. Tensions between the two camps subsided even more over time as they both faced the growing challenge of secularization among the Jews. Today, the distinction between them is still evident in Israel's political arena where the "Lithuanian" yeshiva world is represented by the Degel Hatorah Party, while Hassidim are concentrated within Agudat Yisrael. But conflict and accusations of heresy are a distant memory.

Is there then a reassuring motif here for the Jewish people in its present Orthodox-Reform predicament? "I'm afraid not," says Etkes. "What made it possible for Hassidim and their opponents to reach a kind of coexistence was the fact that both acknowledged the authority of Halacha. Once there is a movement which doesn't acknowledge the Halacha's authority or interprets Halacha differently, this is a split that cannot be bridged in the same way."

It might, however, be bridged in another way, a national way, Etkes believes. "If we take religion as the criterion for defining Judaism, it would be very difficult to reach any agreement. But if we agree that the Jewish nation is made up of Orthodox, Reform, and Conservative, religious and secular, and that what is common to all is involvement in the fate of the Jewish people and commitment to the welfare of the state of Israel, then what they have in common goes beyond religion."

If there is something to be learned from the history of past schisms, it is perhaps that the Jewish world is now caught up in a process likely to be of long duration and unpredictable outcome.

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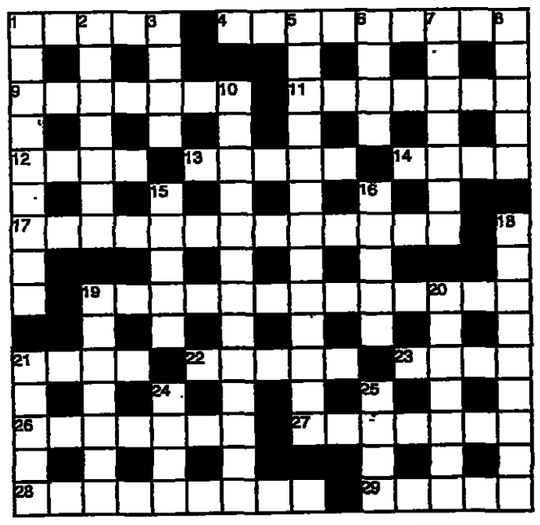
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Pool made by young cat (5)
4 Night-club certain to upset conversation (9)
9 Startle birds out and about (with no ring fitted) (7)
11 A dairy product one meets on border (7)
12 A big hit over centre-line (4)
13 Deposit for a cottage (5)
14 Announce piece of legislation (4)
17 Soldier hear plain order to find things (13)
19 The new stadium constructed for a football club? (4,3,6)
21 Science article to study (4)
22 Making way in dried grass produces rash (5)
23 Hollow warning (4)
26 Bond to hit wine (7)
27 Old measure of land by the ton (7)
28 Regard tip oddly—particularly one given at Christmas (9)
29 Mockingly, he is said to have an easy life (5)

DOWN

1 Leather finally chosen for backing novel (9)
2 Better half drinks Italian wine, it's more palatable (7)
3 What has replaced "thy" and "thou"—right? (4)
5 Informal language in key fixture—vituperative exchange (8,5)
6 Nothing the matter with work (4)
7 Wine retains liquid (7)
8 Loner travelling to join up? (5)
10 Sorrowful composition of Bartok end here, unexpectedly? (13)
15 Soft mass treated—now fit! (5)
16 Black Country is mild (5)
18 Woeful time for new deliveries (9)
19 Cover for the present, in case? (7)
20 One carries things on it—about four? (3,4)
21 Bit of a row (5)
24 Inferior quality of gold found at bottom of river (4)
25 Small present at Christmas perhaps (4)

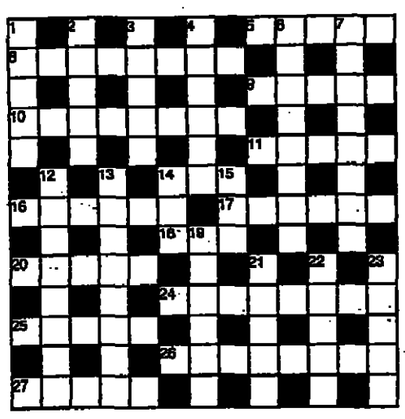


SOLUTIONS

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Yesterday's Quick Solution
ACROSS: 1 Hamster, 5 Teeth, 8 Torso, 9 Vagrant, 10 Luxybones, 12 Ode, 13 Flower, 14 Strand, 17 Ado, 18 Hairpiece, 20 Clipper, 21 Cause, 23 Ditty, 24 Reliant.
DOWN: 1 Hotel, 2 Mar, 3 Trouble, 4 Ravine, 5 Tagus, 6 Elaborate, 7 Hothead, 11 Zoologist, 13 Fiscoid, 15 Topical, 16 Mirror, 18 Happy, 19 Exact, 22 Spa.

QUICK CROSSWORD



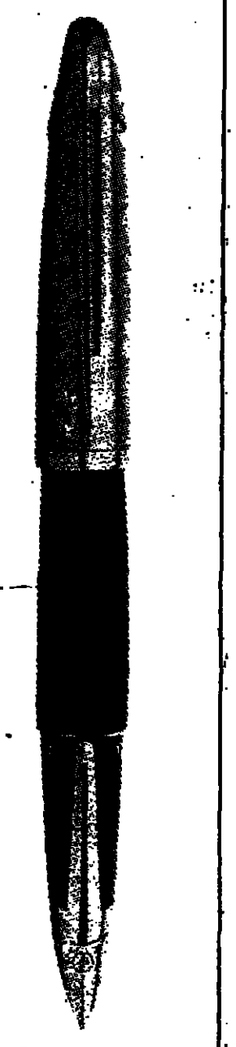
ACROSS

5 Querulous tone (5)
8 Trader (8)
9 Greek marketplace (5)
10 Fanaticism (8)
11 Kenyan tribe (5)
14 Meadow (3)
16 Ocular membrane (6)
17 Colouring pencil (6)
18 Still (3)
20 Sweet cicely (5)
24 Wealthy (8)
25 Deadly (5)
26 Strive (8)
27 Welsh county (5)

DOWN

1 Astonish (5)
2 Trojan king (5)
3 Total disorder (5)
4 Means of access (6)
6 New Year's Eve (8)
7 Storyteller (8)
12 Multiple marriage (8)
13 Enlarge (8)
14 Ballad (3)
15 Law (3)
19 Degenerate (6)
21 Disdain (5)
22 Light buff (5)
23 Horse (5)

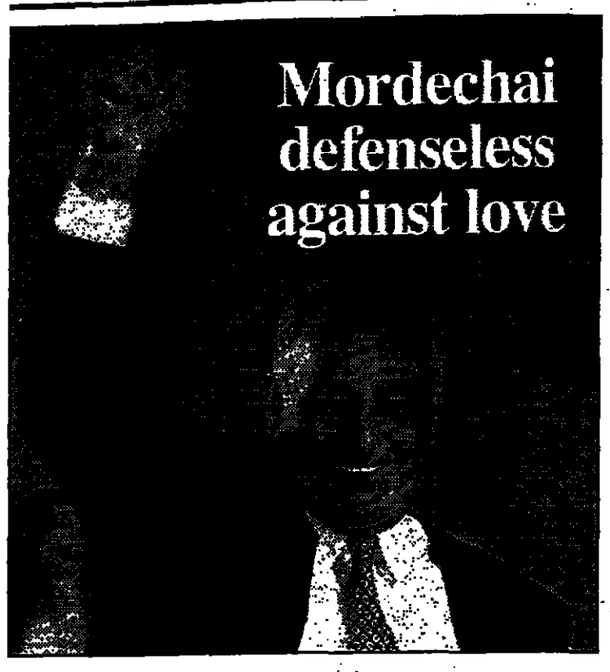
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GRAPEVINE By GREER FAY CASHMAN



Mordechai defenseless against love

Yitzhak Mordechai waves goodbye to bachelorhood. (A. Jerozolimski)

Notwithstanding all the hoopla in the Likud for and against primaries, ministerial duties *et al.*, Defense Minister **Yitzhak Mordechai** has managed to take some time out for his own private pleasures, such as his wedding yesterday to **Kochava Shimshi**. Shas spiritual mentor Rabbi **Ovadia Yosef** officiated at the ceremony held at Mordechai's home in Motza Illit. Prior to the nuptials, the couple visited the Tel Aviv Furniture Exhibition, where they displayed particular interest in kitchens. The 25-year-old bride, who left it almost to the last moment to buy a wedding outfit, claims not to be concerned about the age difference between her and her 53-year-old husband. However, she may discover in time that she has more in common with his children, Sagit, 23, and Ofer, 22.

HIGH-profile politicians and Supreme Court presidents are not the only people whose lives are blighted by extreme security precautions. The harmony of musicians is also at risk. **Anita Kamien**, *musical director of the* Hillel Orchestra at the Hebrew University, has just returned from a concert tour of France where she conducted the King David String Orchestra which is made up *of members of the Jerusalem* Symphony Orchestra. She reports that because of heightened antisemitic activity in France, the nine-member orchestra was not able to play in Toulon but had to move to Six-Fours, some 10 km. away. Neither that recital nor other recitals in Montpellier and Marseilles were advertised on billboards for fear that some French extreme right-wing element might introduce a jarring note. But even the extreme right might have been happy to support the Marseilles concert, which was produced under the auspices of the Young Leadership Division of the United Israel Appeal of France and under the patronage of Israel Consul General **Arye Gabay**. Proceeds from the concert are being directed to promote aliya, something which should please the extreme right.



***Pnina Rosenblum:* New head of the Association of Friends of Ilan.**

IT was a garden party in more ways than one when members of the Chug Yovel group of Herzog Hospital supporters met in the sculpture garden of Beit Hanassi last Friday. After viewing the display, the women walked just down the road to another garden, belonging to Chug members **Arline and Zolly Miller**, where they had a delightful brunch. Guests purchased cakes and plants *to help fund the new gardens* which Zolly Miller and Mike Lucas are designing for the use of patients at the hospital. Joining regular Chug Yovel activists **Lily Silver, Sheila Lyon, Chana Sheink, Jeanne Turkel, Jeannine Brilleman, Rhoda Carlin** and **Joan Fisher** was Australian visitor **Sima Lederman**, who took time out from visiting relatives and friends to contribute to a good cause.

AUSTRIAN ambassador **Herbert Kroll** and his wife, **Noracsy**, combined the reception for their country's national day celebrations with their own farewell. The ambassador, who arrived in Israel nearly three and a half years ago, has completed his tour of duty and the popular couple, well known for their musical soirees, will return home early next month. Among the Austrian expatriates who came to say goodbye were Israel Prize laureate and veteran *Time* magazine photographer **David Rubinger**, former vice-mayor of Jerusalem **Yehudit Hubner**, and former *Jerusalem Post* editor-in-chief **Ari Rath**.

And from neighboring Hungary, there was an even more famous expatriate – Israel's internationally acclaimed writer and humorist **Ephraim Kishon**.

RETURNING to Israel sporting a becoming new hairdo with a gamin cut, **Catherine Manning**, wife of British ambassador **David Manning**, is now shopping around for an Israeli hairdresser who can keep it looking good.

JERUSALEM has the City of David and Eilat is about to get the City of Solomon – a tourist complex named for King Solomon's famous copper mines. The project has been launched by Africa Israel Hotels and Resorts, which has business interests with Holiday Inn and other international chains. **Dani Palti**, Africa Israel general manager, announced plans with other investors this week for another joint-venture theme park at Mahanayim Junction in Upper Galilee. Palti hosted a dinner at the Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza, Tel Aviv, to celebrate the new enterprise which will include the first *Holiday Inn Express Hotel in* Israel.

RETIRED diplomats are not necessarily put out to pasture. Several of them were on the payroll of the late *Shoul Eisenberg. Others find new* expression for their hobbies. Case in point is former ambassador **Mickey Bavli**, an avid collector of rare classical recordings. Bavli will soon be hosting a weekly one-hour program on The Voice of Music and will share a large segment of his collection with listeners. Bavli is better known in the Foreign Ministry for his sense of humor. For the 40th anniversary of the state, he edited a booklet of some of the funniest and most ludicrous dispatches sent home by Israeli envoys abroad, but was careful to exclude the names of the dispatchers lest they be embarrassed by the contents at a later point in their careers. The booklet is still a hit today and people are clamoring for updates. Some of the best dispatches, especially on April Fool's Day, were composed by Attorney General **Elyakim Rubinstein** and former consul general in New York **Colette Avital**.

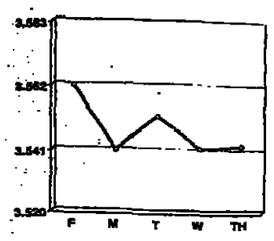
IS IT sentiment or merely a chance to cash in on the magic associated with Diana, Princess of Wales? One of the more recent efforts to bask in the radiance of her legacy is by the Princess Hotel, Eilat, whose general manager **Ziv Goldstein** has written to **Prince Charles** informing him that the hotel management has decided to dedicate its presidential suite to the memory of the princess. The hotel will be flexible about the date of the dedication ceremony but would like to invite the British ambassador and possibly a representative of the royal family.

COSMETICS queen **Pnina Rosenblum**, who plans to run for a seat in the next Knesset, is meanwhile putting her administrative and social skills to good use. She recently accepted the chairmanship of the Association of Friends of Ilan, the Israel foundation for handicapped children.

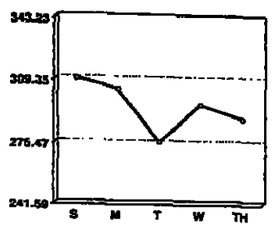
WHAT does it take to break up a friendship? In the case of **Winona Ryder** and **Gwyneth Paltrow**, it was a misplaced script. When Ryder allowed Paltrow to stay in her New York apartment while she went off to London for a film shoot, she left behind the script of *Shakespeare in Love*. Paltrow found it, read it, went after the coveted female lead role and got it. For Ryder, who had set her heart on the part, it was a bitter lesson in treachery.

MARKETS
in brief

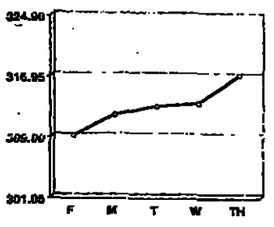
DOLLAR / SHEKEL



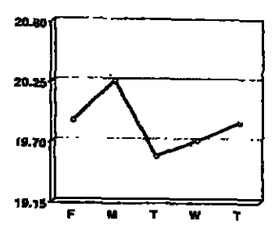
MAOF INDEX



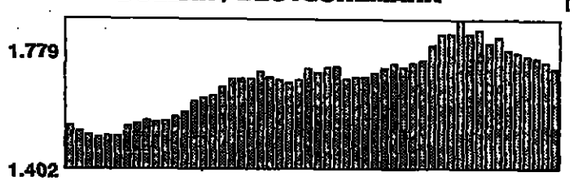
GOLD
$ per ounce



OIL
$ per barrel of brent crude

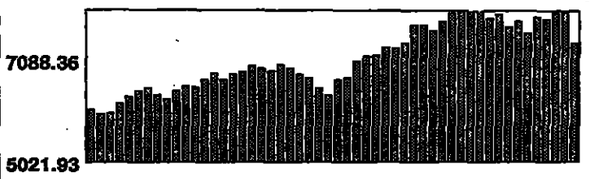


DOLLAR / DEUTSCHEMARK



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Orckit reports first profits

Orckit Communications, the maker of high-speed modems, reported yesterday third quarter revenues of $7.2 million, compared with $2.8m. for the same period in 1996.

Net income for the last quarter rose to $108,000 against a net loss of $756,000 in the third quarter last year.

Revenues for the first nine months of the year, ending September 30, rose 155 percent to $20.1m. from $9.7m in the equivalent period a year ago. *Dan Gerstenfeld*

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Neeman: Strikes will accelerate privatization

By DAVID HARRIS

If strikes continue in the public sector, the government will be forced to speed up its privatization program and sell additional state assets, Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman warned yesterday.

Neeman was speaking to Tel Aviv businesspeople before meeting with Histadrut chairman Amir Peretz today.

"If the strikes continue and if the sanctions continue, there'll be no choice other than to privatize in other areas for which the government is responsible," said Neeman.

Earlier in the day Neeman fired a warning shot at the Knesset Finance Committee regarding the 1998 state budget. If MKs do not accept the government-proposed budget and insist on additional public expenditure, the bill will have to be footed by the public, said Neeman.

Speaking at the opening of the committee's budget debate, Neeman said he values and welcomes the opinions and proposals of Knesset members, but insisted the general framework of the budget must remain intact.

The plenum approved the budget at its first reading late Wednesday by 48 votes to 44, but Treasury officials are already admitting that it will be far more difficult to push the proposals through the committee stage, followed by the second and third readings.

Committee chairman Avraham Ravitz (United Torah Judaism) has promised he will try to muster a united approach to the budget within the ranks of the coalition. However, Gesher representative and coalition coordinator on the committee Michael Kleiner has already signalled his dissatisfaction with the proposals by staying away from Wednesday night's plenary sitting.

The government also faces internal dissent regarding its NIS 207.4 billion package from Yisrael Ba'aliya and Shas MKs, with opposition to planned education cuts also expected from National Religious Party politicians.

Once again, Neeman told MKs he is happy to receive their alternative budgetary proposals as long as they do not involve added government expenditure, which would have to be met by increased taxation.

Meanwhile, many of the planned improvements to the country's railways will have to be put on hold or abandoned, because the Treasury is not abiding by its promise to transfer NIS 300 million to Israel Railways in 1998, Amos Uzani, the organization's director-general, claimed yesterday. The railway budget will stand at NIS 195m., from which VAT will be deducted and NIS 35m. will be handed over to the Ports and Railways Authority.

"There are many nice things said about the railways and the fact that we need it," said Uzani. "But when it boils down to it, there's far less substance."



Seeing is believing
A representative from Kyocera Corp. shows off the world's first hand-held TV phone. The handset allow callers to see each other in black and white and will retail in December for about $410. (Reuter)

PM: Gov't will form large R&D fund with commericial firms

Globes Business News

The government is working to set up a large research and development fund in conjunction with the private sector, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu told a meeting of the National Economic Forum yesterday.

Netanyahu presented the need to increase investment in R&D as one of the government's main priorities within existing budget constraints. Another, he said, is to boost the technological manpower pool. A plan is taking shape for increasing the number of technological education graduates from 1,000 to 3,000 within four years, the prime minister said.

Only after the Israeli economy achieves these two goals can steps be taken towards achieving a third goal – acquiring overseas marketing channels. The absence of these at present is arresting growth, he said.

At this stage, Netanyahu said, Israeli companies are not big enough to set up corporations that can break into world markets, as Japanese corporations are doing. "To date, the government has privatized assets amounting to NIS 9 billion," he said. "I intend to carry on with the privatization of services."

Netanyahu estimated that in 1998, accelerated economic growth will resume earlier than the government had anticipated, because of a flow of new investments to Israel.

"The transition to accelerated growth will take less time than we thought, since the outside investments response is creating a new situation," added Netanyahu.

Other things the government is planning include the development of infrastructure for railroad, aviation and toll roads and the addition of 150 gas stations. The government will also propose comprehensive tax reform.

Unemployment stabilizes at 7.8%

By Jerusalem Post Staff

Unemployment averaged 7.8 percent during July and August, according to figures published this week by the Central Bureau of Statistics.

The jobless rate has stabilized at this level since June, after dropping to 6.4% in the March-April period. Despite the general trend of rising unemployment, the actual number of working people has remained stable since January. Wages, meanwhile, rose some 1% in annualized terms in July.

These initial statistics are a part of the bureau's report on main economic indicators for August and September. The data also point to dwindling domestic demand and exports, accompanied by a slowdown in the pace of industrial production growth. Whereas in April industrial production grew by a yearly 7% to 8%, that rate had shrunk to 4% by August.

In other economic indicators, the number of hotel nights dropped in annual terms by 13% to 14% in August-September, following a fall of 10% to 12% between May and July.

The consumer price index rose at an annual 7% in September, down from 9% in July and August.

The shekel exchange rate against the basket of major currencies (the US dollar, Japanese yen, German mark, British pound and French franc) increased 1% in July and September, following an annualized 11% rise from April to June.

Economic growth continued at an annual 2% between April and September, according to a separate report released yesterday by the research department of the Bank of Israel. The reasons it gave for the slowdown include a reduction in the contribution by new immigrants, a reduction in consumer demand, and ongoing political uncertainty.

Inflation in the year to September 30 reached 8.7%, compared to 9.3% in August and 8% in May. Inflationary expectations for the coming 12 months ranged between 8.5% and 9.5% during the May to September period.

The next economic indicator to be published (probably on Sunday) is the government's budget performance during the first 10 months of the year.

IMF begins annual review

By DAVID HARRIS

The annual visit of International Monetary Fund economists begins this weekend, the Bank of Israel said.

The team of four economists will meet business and government representatives including Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman and Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel. The team, headed by IMF European division deputy director Yosuko Horiguchi, will complete its work here by November 12, when it will present Neeman and Frenkel with its initial findings on the shape of the Israeli economy.

Upon their return to Washington, group members will write a detailed report, which will then be considered by the IMF board.

The 1996 IMF report blasted the Labor government's "departure from fiscal consolidation" and "expansionary fiscal policy." This, the report claimed, led to a worsening of the current-account deficit, a surge in consumer imports, and accelerating inflation.

The IMF recommended the government continue its budget cuts program, reduce spending and implement its structural reform program, in was essentially a vote of support for the Bank of Israel-Finance Ministry's efforts to put the economy back on track.

While pointing to the economic difficulties being experienced, the report also suggested that implementation of these measures should be sufficient to bring a return to higher growth levels.

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This is a new operation, with no existing connections in Israel.

Elron buys ON Technology assets

By JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

Elron Electronic Industries Ltd., a high-tech holding company based in Haifa, yesterday announced an agreement to acquire ON Technology Corporation's network management and network security business assets for $12 million in cash, plus an additional payment based on the performance of the product lines.

The deal is subject to the approval of ON's shareholders. The Cambridge, Massachusetts-based company trades on the Nasdaq stock exchange.

As a result of the acquisition, Elron, whose shares are traded on the Nasdaq market and on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, will establish Elron Software Inc., which will form the company's network management division. Elron will receive control of ON Technology's Internet software and fire wall security products.

Elron said that it decided to purchase ON as part of its strategy to expand into new technology markets.

"Elron Software will advance our strategic commitment to information technology by creating an entirely new market-driven concept for delivering Israeli technologies into worldwide markets," Elron CEO Uzia Galil said in a statement.

Elron Software Inc. will retain about 100 ON employees.

Elron has holdings in the medical diagnostic imaging, advanced defense electronics, communication, semiconductor, and machine vision fields. The group generated revenues of $1.2 billion last year. Eighty-seven percent of the company's sales went to exports.

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MISHTANIM
LEADING TASE ISSUES

	LAST	CHANGE*
Africa Hotels	395.0	-1.7
Agan	8371.0	-3.3
Bank Leumi 0.1	542.0	-1.3
Bezeq	909.0	-3.0
Bromine	2648.0	-2.3
Caniel	2887.0	-0.7
Clal Computers	10755.0	-5.0
Clal Electronics	51157.0	-5.0
Clal Industries	2000.0	-3.8
Clal Insurance	4060.0	-7.0
Clal Israel 1	103.5	-3.7
Compi	362.0	-3.6
Dead Sea Works 0.1	1038.0	-2.3
Discount 01	22.6	-3.0
Discount Bank	361.0	-1.9
Discount Inv.	9618.0	-3.2
Elco	2910.0	-2.5
Elram	357.0	-3.0
First Int'l 5	222401.0	-3.0
Hapoalim 0.1	836.0	-0.9
I.D.B. Dev.	7568.0	-2.2
I.D.B. Holdings	7570.0	-3.0
Ind Bldgs	625.0	-3.5
Israel Chemicals	443.0	-2.4
Koor	36481.0	-3.2
Koor Bond 5	146.0	-3.0
Leumi Insurance	229.0	-4.6
Leumi Mortgage	0.0	0.0
Makhteshim	2183.0	-2.8
Mehadrin	8279.0	-3.5
Osem Industries	1988.0	-4.7
Packer Steel	7713.0	-5.2
Periclase	1375.0	-3.0
Rogosin	1640.0	0.0
Shekem	83.0	2.5
Supersol	1014.0	1.3
Tadiran	12792.0	-2.5
Tefahot	245195.0	-2.5
Teva	16480.0	-2.7
United Steel	204.0	-8.1
Vardinon	23997.0	-6.5

RETZEF
CONTINUOUS TRADING SHARES

	LAST	CHANGE*
Agis	2930.0	-2.3
Ocif	8300.0	-5.7
Urdan	338.0	-4.2
Ormat Industries	547.0	-3.2
Azorim	4020.0	-2.9
Ytong Industries	978.0	-5.1
Elbit Imaging	2170.0	-3.6
Elbit 0.003	1272.0	-6.5
Elbit system	3940.0	-3.2
Electra	13800.0	-2.1
Electra App	1910.0	-2.5
Elron 0.003	5120.0	-3.8
Africa Israel 0.1	22800.0	-3.8
Africa Israel 1	208300.0	-3.1
Ackerstein Ind.	375.0	-3.8
First Int'l 1	42400.0	-2.3
Baran	2840.0	-4.4
Delek 0.1	10720.0	-5.4
Delek Car	843.0	-1.3
Development Mort	28000.0	-3.8
ILDC	2120.0	-4.9
Harel Mishmar 5	17000.0	-5.2
Israel Corp. 1	25400.0	-5.9
Israel Corp. 5	113000.0	-2.6
Export Inv.	1000.0	-4.4
Isramco	3.3	-2.9
Wire and Cables	1092.0	-1.0
Kitan	317.0	-6.8
JEC	1626.0	-6.1
General Bank	10780.0	-4.3
Leumi Mortgage	86500.0	-5.3
Leader	1638.0	-5.4
Liraz	4000.0	-8.7
Mivtach Shamir	2200.0	-4.8
Mollet	223.0	-4.3
Salt Industries	1632.0	-5.4
Malibu 5	5890.0	-2.6
Al Paper Mills	15540.0	-2.2
Mashov	326.0	-3.8
Mishkan	58700.0	-3.5
Matab	3120.0	-2.2
Nice Systems	16480.0	1.1
Prop & Bldg	25700.0	-2.3
Maritime Bank	1559.0	-3.2
Secom	324.0	-2.4
Meir Ezra	2750.0	-5.2
Elite Ind. 5	9440.0	-3.2
Feuchtwanger 5	52000.0	-3.7
Petrochemicals	2130.0	-2.3
FIBI 5	60300.0	-3.5
Polgat B 4	1008.0	-2.1
Phoenix Ins. 1	4750.0	0.0
Poalim Inv.	14330.0	-1.1
Formula	10640.0	-1.0
Kardan 5	1871.0	-6.1
Cold Storage 5	8360.0	-2.2
Blue Square	3240.0	-0.8
Otzar Hashilton	13950.0	-2.2
TAT 5	1627.0	-1.9
Team Computers	6910.0	-6.8

KARAM
SMALL CAPITALIZATION TASE ISSUES

	LAST	CHANGE*
ATX	152.0	0.0
ATX Bond A	152.0	0.0
Abjac	4.0	0.0
Abudi	72.5	-0.7
Ace-Spade	429.0	0.5
Ackerstein Bond B	165.0	0.0
Ackerstein Zvi 1	1404.0	-1.5
Ackerstein Zvi 5	6457.0	0.0
Adacom Bond 2	0.0	0.0
Adanim	522997.0	0.0
Adler	125.5	-10.0
Adsha	89.5	2.3
Adumim	227.0	0.0
Africa Israel Bond 2	0.0	0.0
Africa Israel Hotels Bond A	130.5	0.0
Afsek Ind	2116.0	-1.0
Agis Warrant 2	776.0	-11.0
Agis Warrant 3	132.5	-32.4
Agis Warrant 4	909.0	-11.0
Agish Int'l	353.0	-1.9
Agri Investments	160.0	-5.0
Al-Ben	153.0	0.0
Al-Ben Bond A	107.5	0.5
Al-Rov	3636.0	-8.0
Alba c2	95.0	0.0
Alba w6	106.5	0.0
Alba wc5	385.0	0.0
Alliance	696.0	-3.1
Alon	368.0	-3.9
Aloni Warrant 2	0.0	0.0
Alony-Hetz	363.0	0.0
Alony-Hetz Bond A	179.5	0.0
Alrod	358.0	-9.7
Alumir	170.5	-10.0
Alumit	6888.0	0.0
Amigar	235.0	-5.8
Amitec	495.0	0.0
Ammell Warrant 1	34.5	-8.0
Amnat	511.0	0.0
Ampa Investments	95007.0	-8.0
Analyst EMS	1133.0	-5.0
Angel Trade	56.5	-10.3
Angel Trade Bond A	148.5	-1.0
Angel Trade Bond B	124.0	0.4
Angel Trade Bond C	85.5	0.0
Angel Trade Warrant 2	6.1	-10.3
Applicom	2492.0	-2.5
Arad	2916.0	0.0
Arad Towels	919.0	-10.0
Arazim	99.0	0.0
Arazim Bond 1	234.0	0.0
Argaman	187.5	0.3
Arledan	1410.0	-3.0
Arpal	581.0	-3.3
Aryt	133.5	-7.3
Aryt Bond 1	117.0	-3.7
Ashkelon Plywood	1072.0	0.0
Ashkelon Plywood Bond 1	231.0	0.0
Ashkelon Plywood Bond 2	127.0	-0.4
Ashled	435.0	-2.0
Ashled Bond A	154.5	0.0
Ashot	383.0	-9.9
Ashot Bond A	166.5	0.0
Ashpara	88.0	-10.2
Ashtrom Bond 1	168.0	0.0
Ashtrom Bond 2	149.5	-0.7
Ashtrom Ind.	585.0	-4.7
Ashtrom Prop.	270.0	-8.2
Assuta Bond 1	0.0	0.0
Astrum Bond C	101.5	-0.5
Astrum Warrent 2	46.4	-9.9
Astrum Warrent 3	0.0	0.0
Atlion	100.0	-0.5
Atmor	1072.0	-10.0
Atzmon	333.0	0.0
Aura	3751.0	-8.0
Avarot	599.0	-3.7
Avarot Bond A	158.0	0.0
Averbuch Formica	567.0	0.0
Aviv	630.0	0.0
Aviv Bond 1	151.5	-0.7
Avner	2.0	-4.8
Ayalon	634.0	-0.5
Azimuth	351.0	0.0
Azorim Prop.	673.0	-1.8
Azorim Properties Bond 3	168.5	0.0
Azorim Warrant T	0.0	0.0
Azorim Warrent A	1258.0	-8.3
Azorim Warrent B	1102.0	-27.3
Badesh Bond 1	75.5	-0.7
Baltil	326.0	-0.6
Baleoline 1	494.0	-3.3
Baleoline Bond A	124.5	0.0
Baleoline Warrant 2	86.5	-19.9
Balron	1547.0	-2.0
Bare'asaf	73.5	0.0
Bare'asaf Bond A	142.5	0.0
Bar	387.0	-0.5
Bar Bond A	116.5	-0.9
Barad	261.0	3.1
Baranowitz	490.0	-2.0
Baranowitz Bond 1	164.5	0.0
Barkan	774.0	-5.0
Barzel	158.5	0.0
Bartal	132.5	0.0
Baumel Moshe	163.5	0.0
Bayside 1	46080.0	-4.0
Bayside 5	231652.0	-2.0
Bayside Bond 1	0.0	0.0
Belmon	261.0	-8.1
Ben Yakar Bond A	167.0	-0.9
Ben Yakar Bond B	98.5	0.0
Ben Yakar Gat	4436.0	-4.0
Ben Yakar Warrant 2	131.5	-9.9
Berman	146.0	0.0
Bilu	966.0	0.0
Bilu Bond A	167.0	6.0
Binar	624.0	-2.0
BiH	294.0	-2.0
Bonei Tichon	468.0	-3.0
Bonjour	315.0	5.0
Boulous Brothers	155.5	-6.5
Boulous Brothers Bond 1	260.0	0.0
Boulous GD	495.0	-2.0
Boulous GD Bond A	137.5	-0.4
Brand	87.0	-1.1
Brill	100.0	0.0
Brok Side	40.2	-10.1
Brosh	144.0	0.0
Building Bank	2574.0	-4.0
Building Resou.	3203.0	3.0
C Holdings	959.0	-10.0
C Holdings Bond 5	126.5	-0.8
C Holdings Warrant 3	121.0	-5.8
CDI	179.5	-4.0
CI Systems	187.0	-7.9
Caesarea 1	8743.0	-3.0
Capital	656.0	0.3
Capital Bond A	119.0	0.0
Caprice	592.0	-2.9
Cargal	900.0	0.0
Carmel	493.0	-3.0
Carmiel	618.0	0.0
Castro	980.0	-4.0
Catalana 1	681.0	0.0
Catalana 5	0.0	0.0
Cementcol	944.0	-5.0
Centre	151.0	-4.1
Centre Bond 1	147.0	-1.7
Centre Warrant B	24.8	-14.9
Cham	506.0	1.9
Cheyun Computers	123.0	-9.9
Chemipal	379.0	-4.1
Chim-Nir	365.0	-4.9
Cideb	208.0	-1.9
Clal Computer Warrant 3	1592.0	-1.5
Clal Industries Bond	207.0	-2.8
Clal Israel 5	477.0	-2.1
Clal Retail	60496.0	-1.3
Clal Trade	823.0	-1.8
Cohen Beni	153.5	0.0
Cohen Dev.	680.0	-1.0
Cohen MM	257.0	0.0
Cold Storage 1	1603.0	-5.0
Cold Storage and Supply Bond 1	249.0	-1.2
Compi Warrent 1	58.0	-7.4
Compolite	260.0	-7.1
Comtech	376.0	-5.1
Comkans	1382.0	-8.0
Contal	1044.0	-4.0
Contractors	20251.0	0.0
Coral Beach	1340.0	0.0
Credit Line	7.3	0.0
Credit Lines Bond A	43.2	0.0
Cyclone 1	2263.0	-7.5
Cyclone Bond 1	236.0	-2.9
Cyclone Bond 2	149.5	-0.3
DARBAN BOND 2	104.0	0.0
DARBAN W2	151.5	-10.4
DSL	1281.0	-9.0
DYG Industries	592.0	-2.5
Dafron	1547.0	-1.0
Dafron Bond 1	245.0	0.0
Dalin	3.1	0.0
Dan Hotels	935.0	0.0
Dan Rent-A-Car	685.0	-6.5
Dan Rent-A-Car Bond A	160.5	-2.1
Danbar 1	4354.0	-10.0
Danbar 5	21316.0	-6.0
Danbar Bond A	343.0	0.0
Danbar Resources	8428.0	-0.2
Danbar Resources Bond B	163.5	-0.9
Danbar Tech.	7399.0	-1.5
Danbar Technologies Bond A	155.0	0.0
Dandor	281.0	-4.4
Danel	36.2	0.0
Danel Bond 1	0.0	0.0
Danel Bond 2	0.0	0.0
Danel Personnel	2748.0	-4.5
Dankner	1714.0	-4.5
Dankner Bond 1	207.0	0.5
Dankner Bond 2	142.5	0.4
Danty	916.0	-0.2
Darad	120.5	-4.0
Darban	692.0	-2.9
Darban Bond A	182.5	-6.4
Darban Warrant 3	130.0	-1.1
Darban Warrant C	0.0	0.0
Dares	120.5	0.0
Darlon	150.5	0.0
Data	736.0	-0.5
Decision Systems	372.0	-3.4
Decision Systems Warrant 2	128.5	0.0
Degem Systems	487.0	-4.7
Delek Drillings	11.6	8.4
Delek Oil	1573.0	-2.0
Delta 1	1330.0	-10.0
Delta 3	4060.0	-2.5
Destiny	1349.0	0.0
Digel	101.0	0.0
Dirom1	1984.0	-1.0
Dirom5	7131.0	-1.0
Discount a23	12.9	-37.1
Discount a2	0.0	0.0
Dolev	427.0	-0.5
Dolev Bond A	139.0	-1.1
Domicar	492.0	7.3
Domicar Bond	151.5	0.0
Dor Chim.	390.0	-1.8
Dorot w1	128.5	-0.8
Doresc	65.0	0.0
Dori c1	99.0	0.0
Dori Engineering	443.0	-1.3
Dori Engineering Bond A	141.5	-1.0
Dovrat Bond A	137.0	0.0
Dovrat Shrem	1122.0	-5.0
Dovrat Shrem Warrant 3	255.0	-3.0
Dubek M	2.5	0.0
Dubek S	2.2	-4.3
Dunitz	385.0	5.5
E & M Computing	1127.0	-9.5
ESE	1801.0	-6.0
Edgar Albert	126.5	0.0
Edgar Industries	176.0	-3.6
Edgar Industries Bond 2	163.0	3.1
Elfar Bond A	98.9	0.0
Elni	235.0	0.0
Eilam	280.0	0.0
El Bad	1831.0	-9.6
El Canit	1094.0	-3.0
El Canit Bond 1	172.5	-1.1
Elad	468.0	-3.3
Elad Bond A	176.5	0.0
Elad Bond B	150.0	0.0
Elad c3	78.5	-1.3
Elad w5	75.5	0.0
Elbit Computers Bond B	117.0	0.0
Elbit Computers Warrant 2	1339.0	-11.0
Elco Industries	5423.0	-3.0
Eldan Tech.	29.3	0.0
Electra Bond	0.0	0.0
Electronics Line	530.0	-5.2
Elgar	4696.0	-9.0
Elishav	454.0	0.0
Elite Ind. 1	1799.0	-5.3
Elitech Ind.	952.0	-5.0
Ella	410.0	-1.0
Ella Bond A	147.0	0.0
Elran	3253.0	-7.2
Elron Warrant 2	2024.0	-11.5
Emek	142.0	-0.7
Emyle	571.0	-3.1
Engel Const.	877.0	-10.0
Engel Construction Bond	171.0	0.0
Eshed Robotech	354.0	-1.9
Even	289.0	-1.0
Evergreen	2555.0	-0.7
Excellence	2014.0	-4.0
Extra	206.0	0.0
Feldman	149.5	0.0
Feldman Bond A	151.5	-1.0
Feldman Ind.	244.0	0.0
Feldman Warrant 3	48.5	0.0
Fertilisers 1	75.5	-6.2
Fertilisers 5	0.0	0.0
Feuchtwanger 1	10627.0	-2.3
Fidelti	2313.0	-0.5
First Int'l Mort	56753.0	-2.3
Five J Jewelers	527.0	-2.4
Five J Jewelers Bond 2	121.0	0.0
Formica Source	306.0	0.0
Frutarom	334.0	-5.1
Gahelet	14502.0	-10.0
Galcon	174.5	-5.2
Galran	1441.0	-1.0
Gama	231.0	0.4
Genetronic	647.0	-2.0
Gambit	1471.0	-10.0
Gan Shmuel Bond A	95.5	-7.3
Gan Shmuel Warrant 3	241.0	-13.3
Gan Shmuel	893.0	-10.0
Ganei Hadar	398.0	-2.9
Ganei Hadar Bond A	0.0	0.0
Gap Development	129.0	0.0
Gap Holdings	348.0	-5.2
Gazit	745.0	-1.7
Gazit Bond A	0.0	0.0
Gazit Bond B	141.0	0.0
Gazit Bond C	114.5	0.0
Gazit Warrant 4	33.3	-4.9
Gibor Bond 1	97.0	-1.0
Gibor Sabrina	84.5	-10.1
Gibor Sport	662.0	0.0
Gilboa	163.0	0.0
Gilo	201.0	-6.1
Giltek	1457.0	-10.0
Givot Olam Oil	260.0	-10.0
Glob Fit	807.0	-3.0
Golan	506.0	-6.1
Gold	504.0	-1.0
Golden House	432.0	0.0
Golden House Bond 1	251.0	0.0
Golex	177.0	0.0
Granit Bond	139.0	-0.4
Granit Bond 2	136.0	-0.4
Granit Hacarmel	547.0	-3.0
Green Software	145.0	0.0
Greenberg	294.0	-9.0
Groff	0.0	0.0
H. Electronics	84.0	0.0
H. Mer	939.0	-10.0
HL Service Bond 1	0.0	0.0
HL Service Bond 2	181.0	-0.5
HL Service Bond 3	149.5	0.0
HL Services	2230.0	0.3
Habas	3383.0	-3.0
Habas Bond 1	135.5	0.0
Hader 1	20381.0	5.0
Hader 5	82460.0	2.0
Hader Ins. 1	813.0	-9.6
Hader Ins. 5	3586.0	-5.5
Hadarim Bond1	117.0	-2.5
Hadarim Prop.	6994.0	5.0
Hadarim Warrant1	1905.0	-8.0
Hagel	340.0	-2.9
Hagel Bond A	0.0	0.0
Hagel Bond B	151.0	-0.3
Ham-Let	1865.0	-9.0
Hamakor	523.0	0.0
Hanal	3.4	-3.0
Harel Bond A	452.0	-9.1
Harel Mishmar 1	3998.0	-6.3
Hasin Esh	568.0	-3.2
Hason	233.0	-4.9
Hatahol 1	220.0	0.0
Hatahol 5	0.0	0.0
Hatahol Bond A	141.5	0.0
Hed Arzi Music	442.0	2.5
Hiron 1	10207.0	-6.0
Hiron 5	41204.0	-5.0
Hod	211.0	-0.5
Hof	632.0	0.0
Holit	110.0	0.0
Hydrolics	144.0	-5.0
IES Industries	634.0	-3.2
IES Warrant 1	195.5	-11.9
ILDC Bond 6	251.0	-0.8
ILDC Bond 7	0.0	0.0
ILDC Hotels	423.0	0.0
ILDC Hotels Bond 1	166.5	1.2
ILDC Insurance	445.0	-8.9
ILDC Insurance Bond A	133.0	-0.7
ILDC Warrant 11	0.0	0.0
ISTA LINES	1289.0	0.0
Ilan Gat	312.0	0.0
Ilan Gat Bond A	155.0	0.0
Imco	1260.0	-5.0
Ind Bld Warrant 3	105.5	-1.4
Ind Bldgs R1	70.0	-10.3
Ind.Dev.Bank C	253.0	0.0
Ind.Dev.Bank CC	2470.0	-0.2
Ind.Dev.Bank CC 1	2460.0	-0.5
Ind.Dev.Bank Pref	1815.0	-2.0
Independence Mort	93498.0	-3.0
Intercosma	903.0	0.0
Intergamma 1	2972.0	-8.0
Intergamma 5	13735.0	2.5
Iscal	1248.0	-10.0
Ispro	4040.0	-2.0
Isracolor	391.0	-4.3
Israel Lighterage Bond 3	134.5	0.0
Israel Wire & Cables Bond C	175.0	0.5
Israel Wire and Cables Warrant 3	0.0	0.0
Isralom	1199.0	-3.0
Isralom Bond B	256.0	0.0
Isras 1	7551.0	-2.0
Isras 5	39412.0	0.0
Isras Bond A	252.0	0.0
Isrotel	815.0	-7.3
Isrotel Warrant 1	5.9	-41.0
JCT	24.2	-1.2
JOEL	120.0	-4.8
JOEL Bond 1A	225.0	0.0
JOEL Bond 2	128.0	-0.4
JOEL Bond A	225.0	0.0
JOEL Warrant 3	4.9	-18.3
Jafora	941.0	0.0
Jafora Bond A	245.0	-0.4
Jaysour	175.0	0.0
Jaysour Bond A	118.5	-0.4
Jerusalem Mort	226.0	-7.0
Jerusalem Mortgage Bond 16	163.5	0.3
Jeunesse	30.2	0.0
Kadmani	125.0	-10.1
Kedouri	274.0	-0.4
Kafrit	1288.0	-7.0
Kalkalit Bond A	97.5	-1.5
Kalkalit warrant 2	368.0	-6.1
Kamour	466.0	-3.7
Kamour Bond G	141.5	-0.4
Kamour Warrant H	30.0	0.0
Kanicol	29.8	-1.0
Kanicol Bond A	70.0	0.0
Kardan 1	408.0	-7.1
Katz	137.5	0.0
Katz Bond A	68.0	0.0
Kedem Chemicals	3065.0	-5.0
Kedem Chemicals Bond 2	223.0	0.0
Kenitex	427.0	-5.9
Kesher	910.0	-2.3
Kesher Bond A	154.5	0.0
Keter	742.0	-2.0
Kind	15.6	0.0
Kind Bond A	38.5	0.0
King	390.0	-6.9
Kinneret	198.5	0.0
Kisch Kinr	171.5	-1.2
Kishrei Teufa	780.0	-4.8
Kital	515.0	-3.2
Kital Bond A	157.5	0.0
Kital Bond A	124.5	-0.4
Kital Warrant 1	42.0	-7.9
Kitan Bond A	0.0	0.0
Kil Ind. 1	0.0	0.0
Kil Ind. 5	7934.0	0.0
Knafaim	2822.0	-4.5
Koor Warrant 2	1435.0	-31.0
Kopel	175.0	-1.1
Kopel Bond 1	247.0	0.0
LIMS	301.0	0.0
La Nationale Bond A	140.0	0.0
La Nationale Pref	105.5	0.0
Lachish	7244.0	3.2
Lamont	631.0	-10.0
Lapidot Oil Exploration	3.9	0.0
Lapidot Oil Explorers	70.5	0.0
Lasers	470.0	-3.3
Laviav	1365.0	0.0
Laznick Bldg	534.0	-2.6
Laznick Comm Ctrs	235.0	-3.3
Laznick Commercial Centres Bond A	127.5	-0.4
Laznick Ind Bldgs	416.0	-9.2
Laznick Industrial Bldgs. Bond A	155.5	-1.0
Leader Warrant B	299.0	-27.1
Lego	335.0	2.4
Leumi Mortgage Bond 154	148.0	-1.7
Leumi Mortgage Warrant 1	0.0	0.0
Leumi RS	22.2	-37.3
Leumi R4	55.5	-9.8
Leventhal	441.0	-0.9
Levi	739.0	0.0
Levi Bond A	139.0	0.0
Levinstein Bond A	97.5	-2.0
Levinstein Warrant 2	520.0	-10.0
Levinstein	3167.0	-10.0
Liber	552.0	0.0
Lidan	1802.0	-2.2
Lilshir 1	238.0	-0.6
Lilshir 5	1026.0	-3.2
Ligad	861.0	-3.3
Ligad Bond 1	152.0	0.3
Lighterage 1	649.0	-3.0
Lipman	2879.0	-8.0
Lipski	3034.0	-2.0
Lipski Bond A	165.5	0.0
Liraz Bond A	151.5	0.0
Lodzia 1	1333.0	-7.5
Lodzia 4	5670.0	3.2
Lubot Galil	66.5	-0.7
Lubot Galil Bond	137.0	0.0
Luzit	4552.0	-2.6
MM Engineering	[illegible]	[illegible]
MM Engineering Bond A	36.0	0.0
MM Engineering Warrant 2	17.2	0.0
MTI Computers	340.0	-3.1
Matariv	1459.0	-5.0
Matariv Bond A	124.0	-1.2
Mashbarot	1127.0	-3.3
Macpell	1159.0	-5.0
Macpell Bond A	136.0	-1.4
Macpell Bond B	117.0	0.0
Mafil	952.0	-9.0
Magam	222.0	-5.9
Magam Bond A	171.5	0.3
Magam Bond B	128.5	0.0
Magav	410.0	-6.8
Magav Warrant 1	39.4	-5.1
Magma	68.5	0.0
Magma Warrant 1	10.4	0.0
Magor 1	3088.0	-3.2
Magor 5	14031.0	-2.3
Malal	307.0	-9.7
Malal Bond A	217.0	0.0
Mall	68.5	-0.7
Malibu 1	1234.0	-3.0
Malibu Bond B	173.0	0.0
Malta	1153.0	-1.0
Maman	747.0	0.0
Man	198.0	0.0
Man Bond A	240.0	-0.4
Mantor	39.0	-0.5
Marathon	99.0	-10.0
Marathon Insured	110.0	-4.8
Mario Laznick Constr. Bond 1	170.0	0.0
Mario Laznick Constr. Bond 2	147.5	0.0
Maritime Bank Bond A	195.0	0.0
Maritime Bank Bond B	142.0	0.0
Maritime Bank Warrant 6	28.5	-0.3
Mashav	815.0	-7.8
Mashov	110.5	-5.2
Mashov Marketing Warrant 1	22.4	0.0
Matam	1679.0	0.0
Maxima 1	979.0	0.0
Maxima 5	5003.0	0.0
Mazpek	620.0	-3.0
Med. Hotels	103.0	-8.0
Meditechnics	989.0	-5.0
Meditechnics Bond A	135.0	0.0
Mediterranean Hotels Bond A	150.0	-0.7
Megason	57.5	0.0
Mei Eden	1766.0	-6.5
Meimad	660.0	-5.4
Meir Ezra Bond B	249.0	-0.4
Melet	423.0	-4.9
Melisaron	1102.0	-2.0
Melisaron Warrant 2	0.0	0.0
Mendelson	230.0	-4.2
Menofim	88.0	0.0
Menorah Ins. 1	1796.0	-0.2
Menorah Ins. 5	8786.0	7.2
Mercazit	688.0	0.0
Mercazit Warrant 2	253.0	-12.2
Meshav	223.0	-7.1
Meytavit	680.0	0.4
Middle East Tube	447.0	-8.0
Middle East Tube Bond A	111.0	0.0
Middle East Tube Warrant 2	45.0	30.1
Milnor Bond A	172.5	-2.5
Milomor	1873.0	-5.0
Mimsar	190.5	-0.3
Mini Line	599.0	2.0
Mirav	16171.0	-7.0
Mirage	160.5	-0.6
Mirage Bond A	135.0	0.0
Mirage Warrant 1	32.4	-5.0
Miromit	60.0	0.0
Mishrael	19.0	0.0
Mishrael Bond B	58.0	0.0
Misher Bond 2	153.0	0.0
Mishor Hahof	369.0	-4.9
Mitrani	160.0	-4.2
Mivtach Shamir	999.0	-2.5
Mizrahi Inv.	12019.0	-4.0
Modgal	784.0	-2.0
Modi'in	2.5	-3.8
Mollet Convertible Bond AAA	318.0	-6.7
Molett	749.0	0.0
Mora Plastic Ind.	296.0	-6.5
Moshkovitz	202.0	-4.7
Moshkovitz Warrant 2	116.5	-10.0
Mula Senter	396.0	0.0
NATSVA BOND A	108.0	-0.5
NATSVA REGULAR	1670.0	-2.7
NMC	438.0	-0.5
NYP	1286.0	-4.5
Nachshon Fund	49.2	-9.7
Naphtha	526.0	-3.9
Naphtha Barkan Bond 5	0.0	0.0
Naphtha Oil Exp.	28.5	-0.3
Nakar	371.0	0.0
Navigator	195.5	0.0
Navigator Bond A	0.0	0.0
Navigator Property	37.8	0.0
Neca	0.0	0.0
Neca Bond A	0.0	3.0
Nechushtan Prop.	199.5	-5.0
Nechushtan Properties Bond A	136.0	0.0
Negev Ceramics	258.0	-1.1
Nehushtan 1	751.0	-2.5
Nehushtan 5	3280.0	-2.0
Neot Aviv	6918.0	0.0
Nesua	587.0	-3.9
Neve Arbel	82.5	0.0
Nevien Hotels	488.0	0.0
Neviot	847.0	-3.0
Nia	393.0	-3.9
Nikuv	1630.0	-5.0
Nisco	2105.0	-6.7
Nissan	226.0	0.0
Noga	1716.0	-5.0
Noga Insurans	99.0	-2.9
Nordan	9.4	0.0
Nordan Tech.	581.0	0.0
Norfolk	747.0	0.0
Norfolk Bond A	149.0	1.0
Nur	63.0	0.0
Oceana	280.0	-2.1
Ocif Bond A	174.0	0.0
Ocif Bond B	192.0	-0.5
Ocif Bond C	94.0	-0.5
Ocif Warrant 1	0.0	0.0
Ocif Warrant 2	1626.0	-6.5
Ocif Warrant 3	178.0	-20.9
Octova	486.0	0.0
Ofek	187.0	0.0
Ofer Bro	7764.0	-0.2
Offis	1114.0	-1.0
Ogdan	51.0	0.0
Ohaliav	1176.0	-2.0
Oil Fields	1.5	0.0
Oil-Dok	616.0	-2.2
Omni	289.0	0.0
Omnitech	247.0	3.1
Ophir	473.0	-7.1
Oppenheimer	142.5	0.0
Optima	33.5	0.0
Orasys	3252.0	-1.0
Orazit	222.0	-10.1
Orazit Bond A	164.0	0.0
Orbit	2575.0	-9.5
Orda	4562.0	-4.0
Orda Bond 1	186.5	0.0
Orev	439.0	-7.2
Oriall	163.5	-0.9
Orlite	487.0	0.0
Ormat Industries Bond D	118.5	0.0
Ormat Industries Warrant 5	242.0	-0.4
Ortal	319.0	-8.9
Oz	240.0	-4.0
PCB	709.0	-8.0
PCB Warrant 3	20.6	0.0
Pach	0.0	0.0
Packer Steel Warrant 1	0.0	0.0
Palough	461.0	-4.9
Pama	777.0	0.0
Pamas	2050.0	-2.5
Pan Dor	207.0	-0.5
Pardes	1199.0	0.0
Pardes Bond A	122.0	-1.6
Passport	3125.0	-1.5
Paz Chen	453.0	-1.1
Pdan Investment	78.5	-3.1
Pareg	99.0	0.0
Phoenix Ins. 5	21700.0	0.0
Pica Plast	686.0	-4.1
Pinros	135.0	-10.0
Pinros Bond A	143.0	0.0
Pitkit	302.0	-0.3
Plasto Sac	888.0	-9.0
Poalim Investments Bond A	135.5	0.4
Point of Sale	3176.0	-1.2
Polak	430.0	-19.8
Polgat A	273.0	0.0
Polgat Bond A	249.0	-0.4
Polgat Bond B	165.5	0.0
Polgat Bond C	0.0	0.0
Polygon	253.0	-5.2
Polygon Bond 2	217.0	0.0
Poraz	385.0	-10.0
Poraz Warrant 1	213.0	-6.2
Port	54.0	0.0
Poseidon	114.5	-9.8
Pri Haemek	52.0	-10.3
Pri Haemek Bond A	70.0	0.0
Pri Or	69471.0	0.0
Pritzker	331.0	-3.2
Pritzker Bond A	148.5	-0.3
Profil	408.0	0.0
Profit Bond A	135.0	1.1
Python	370.0	-4.9
Quality Cap Mkts	712.0	-8.7
RDC	1026.0	-0.5
RDC Bond A	141.0	-0.4
RSL	759.0	-7.0
Rabintex	83.5	0.0
Ram Zor	95.0	0.0
Ramgor 1	260.0	-1.9
Ramgor 4	785.0	0.0
Rapak	2641.0	-1.0
Rapak Bond A	161.0	-1.5
Rassco	1233.0	-2.2
Ratio	1.2	0.0
Ratz	296.0	-2.6
Ratz Bond A	139.5	0.0
Rav Car	126.0	-1.9
Ravad	235.0	-4.8
Red Sea Hotels	777.0	-2.3
Regency	87.0	-3.9
Regency Bond 1	110.0	0.0
Regent	411.0	-6.1
Regent Bond A	141.5	-2.7
Rekah	344.0	-0.3
Reshef	68.5	0.0
Reshef Bond A	0.0	0.0
Reshef Bond B	123.5	0.0
Rimoni	815.0	-9.2
Rogozin Bond A	88.5	-1.1
Rogozin Warrent A	32.3	-26.8
Rogozin Warrant B	574.0	-10.3
Romtech	386.0	-3.0
Rosebud	128.5	-5.2
Rosental	157.5	-0.3
Rotem	529.0	-3.5
Rotshtein	153.0	-10.0
Rotshtein Bond A	143.5	-0.3
STG	1163.0	-3.0
STG Bond A	99.5	0.5
Sahar Dev.	2365.0	0.0
Sahar Securities	770.0	-4.9
Sahar Securities Warrant 1	15.6	0.0
Sanlacol	208.0	-2.8
Sano 1	1676.0	3.0
Sano 5	7816.0	0.0
Scandia Bond 1	0.0	0.0
Scandia Bond 2	42.9	0.0
Scapo	1863.0	10.0
Sea Trade	918.0	4.5
Securitas	1256.0	1.5
Securitas Bond A	175.0	0.3
Securitas Warrant 1	16.5	-19.9
Selen	983.0	0.0
Seraton	430.0	0.0
Shaked	388.0	-1.3
Shaked Bond A	0.0	0.0
Shamir	277.0	-1.4
Shel	388.0	-3.2
Shekel	132.5	-0.4
Shekel Bond A	149.0	0.0
Shekem Barkan Bond 4	147.5	0.0
Shekem Bond 1	148.0	0.3
Shekem Warrant 1	7.8	0.0
Sheleg	89.0	-1.1
Shem Tov	308.0	0.0
Shemen	13849.0	-9.0
Shemen Bond A	156.0	-1.9
Shemen Warrant 2	1.0	0.0
Shilodot	81.0	0.0
Shlomo Angel	5436.0	9.5
Shmi c2	89.0	-1.1
Shmi w2	268.0	-7.9
Shmira	969.0	-3.0
Shmira Bond A	162.0	0.0
Shmura Fund	0.0	0.0
Shniv	698.0	0.0
Shtang	155.0	9.9
Shulamit	326.0	-2.1
Shulamit Bond A	147.0	-0.3
Sinai	442.0	-0.2
Sinai Bond A	139.0	0.0
Solel Bone	4061.0	-2.0
Solel Bone Bond A	106.5	-1.8
Solel Bone Warrant A	779.0	-15.0
Soll Bone R1	525.0	-11.0
Solog	476.0	-5.2
Solomor	466.0	0.0
Solomon Holdings	816.0	-4.0
South Pipe	490.0	0.0
Spancrit	316.0	-5.4
Spectronix 1	849.0	-4.5
Sunfrost	3841.0	-2.0
Suny Electronics	600.0	4.5
Synopsis	162.0	-4.1
Synopsis Bond A	150.5	0.0
Syntec	407.0	-10.0
TAP Bond 1	278.0	-1.1
TAT 1	491.0	-2.2
TAT Bond A	243.0	0.0
TMM	85.5	-4.5
Tahal	394.0	-6.0
Tadbik	356.0	0.0
Tadiran Appl	508.0	0.0
Takam	1147.0	-5.0
Tal	126.0	-1.6
Tal Bond A	79.5	-4.2
Tal Warrant 2	13.5	0.0
Tambour	671.0	-5.0
Tashluz	492.0	-4.5
Tashluz Bond A	162.5	-0.3
Tashluz Bond B	143.5	-1.0
Tashluz Prop.	422.0	-3.0
Tashluz Warrant 2	29.1	-14.9
Taste of Israel	200.0	0.0
Taya	1173.0	-2.0
Taya Comm. 1	347.0	-3.9
Team Computers Bond A	0.0	0.0
Technoplast	400.0	-8.1
Technoplast Warrant 2	557.0	-6.5
Tedea	1960.0	-3.3
Telahot Preferred	222584.0	-0.3
Telem	3093.0	2.0
Teldor	539.0	-3.1
Telsis	1748.0	-8.0
Tempo	1619.0	-1.0
Tene	381.0	0.0
Teuza	185.5	-10.1
Teuza Insured	177.0	-5.6
Tibon Veal	211.0	-5.4
Tim Warrant 3	898.0	-6.0
Tiv	346.0	-2.0
Tobias	1648.0	0.0
Tom	1253.0	0.0
Topline	423.0	-4.9
Topline Bond 2	151.0	0.0
Topper	56.0	-4.3
Topper Bond 1	68.5	8.4
Topper Warrant 2	10.9	0.0
Tosaf Compounds	285.0	-5.0
Trade	301.0	-7.4
Trade Bond A	193.0	0.3
Trend Line	991.0	-10.0
Trocadero	76.5	0.0
Trydikal	821.0	0.0
Tsaber	131.0	-1.5
Tsarfati	725.0	-3.2
Tsarfati Bond A	149.5	0.0
Tsur	181.0	-3.5
Tsur Bond A	248.0	-0.4
Tsur Bond B	114.5	0.0
Tsur Preferred	166.5	-2.5
Tuttanauer	977.0	-8.5
Tzniche	989.0	-1.0
Tzmicha Bond A	209.0	0.0
Ultsik	99.0	2.1
Unibar 1	1206.0	0.0
Unibar 5	2508.0	0.0
Unico	4579.0	1.5
Unicorn 1	101.0	0.0
Unicorn Bond 1	229.0	0.0
Unidress	603.0	0.0
United Steel Industries Bond 1	158.0	0.0
Univercol	480.0	-3.0
Urdan Warrnt 5	225.0	-4.3
Uropa Israel	3410.0	-10.0
Vardinon Bond A	179.5	0.0
Vardinon Convertible Bond AAA	150.0	0.0
Videomatrix	70.5	0.0
Vilar	417.0	-1.0
Vilar Bond 1	148.5	0.0
Vilar Warrant 2	0.0	0.0
Vil Food	1259.0	-8.0
Viliger Bond A	134.0	-1.5
Vitalgo	451.0	-4.0
Vitalgo Bond A	111.5	0.0
Vulcan	284.0	-6.0
Vulcan Bond 1	226.0	0.0
Woolfman 1	616.0	-8.0
Woolfman 5	2821.0	-6.0
Woolfson	77381.0	-1.0
YDPZ	341.0	-3.1
YDPZ Bond A	149.5	0.0
YLR	867.0	-4.0
Ya'ara	660.0	0.5
Yaacobi	198.5	-5.9
Yaad Bond A	169.5	0.0
Yaad Bond B	94.5	0.0
Yaad Industries	404.0	-1.0
Yaad Warrant 3	80.0	-10.1
Yad	445.0	-8.9
Yamit	192.5	0.0
Yarden	456.0	-4.4
Yarden Bond 2	116.5	0.0
Yarden Warrant 5	103.0	-20.5
Yeda	1383.0	-10.0
Yehuda	319.0	1.8
Yesh Gad	38.7	0.0
Yona Bond A	152.5	0.0
Yona Hotels	286.0	0.0
Yozma	485.0	0.0
Yuval	163.0	0.0
Zafrir	581.0	0.0
Zanea Holdings	54.5	0.0
Zat	108.0	0.0
Zehavi	227.0	0.0
Zeller Ablagon	801.0	-3.0
Zeller Ablagon Bond A	145.5	0.0
Zeller Ablagon Bond B	132.0	-1.5
Zika 1	649.0	-10.0
Zika 5	2990.0	5.3
Zikit 1	4590.0	-5.0
Zikit 5	20535.0	-5.0
Zicometal	761.0	-0.5
Zion Cables 1	244.0	-4.7
Zion Holdings	17749.0	0.0
Zion Textiles	95.0	0.0
Ziv	241.0	-0.4

*In local currencies

ISRAELI SHARES ABROAD

	LAST	CHANGE*
Zohar	388.0	1.8
Zoko	287.0	-4.3

AMEX

	LAST	CHANGE*
Am Israel Paper Mills	43.75	-1
Ampal American Israel	5.25	-0.125
Etz Lavud	7.625	+0.125
Etz Lavud Cl A	7.25	+0.375
Integrated Technology	1.3125	-0.1875
Carmel Containers Sys	8.5	0

NASDAQ

	LAST	CHANGE*
Accent Software	-	-
A.G. Associates	5.875	+0
Aladdin	14.875	-0.1875
Ampal	18.5	0
Aral	2.9375	-0.1875
Arzam	-	-
Better Online Solutions	5.125	-0.25
Bio Technology General	12.5	-0.5
B.V.R. Technologies	9.75	+0.5
Checkpoint Software	40.625	+0
Cimatron	6.5	-0.125
Converse Technology	40.875	-0.75
Crystal Systems Solutions	20.75	-2.75
Fourth Dimension Software	20.25	-0.25
D.S.P. Communications	17.3125	-0.9375
D.S.P.G. Group	35	-0.875
D.S.P.T. Tech	9.25	-0.125
Defense Software Systems	4.8125	-0.125
ECI Telecom	27.5	-1.75
Edusoft	7.125	-0.125
Electric Fuel	8.5	-0.125
Electronics for Imaging	47.875	-2.3125
Elbit Computers	3.75	+0
Elron Electronics	14.125	-0.625
Elbit Medical Imaging	6.5625	+0.125
E.S.C. Medical Systems	39	-0.125
Elbit Systems Ltd	11.25	-0.375
Eltek Circuit Boards	2.125	+0
Elbit Vision Systems	11.5625	-0.6875
M-Systems Flash Disk	5.5	+0
Gilat Satellite Networks	31.75	-0.75
Genesis Bnis.	7.5	+0.5
Geoteck	3.59375	-0.1875
Healthcare Technologies	0.5	+0.0625
Home Center	7	-0.125
I.C.T.S.	10.875	+0.625
Idan Software Industries	-	
IIC Industries	44.25	0
U.S. Intelligent Info	1.03125	+0.03125
Israel Land Develop - ADR	17.5	0
Indigo	5.75	+0
First Israel Fund	13.25	-0.1875
Isramco	0.8125	+0
[illegible] Technologies	15.75	3.625
[illegible]	4.625	-0
Logal	2	-0
Level Systems	16.375	-1
Madge	6	-0.25
Magal Security Systems	4.1875	-0.1875
Matav	17.875	-0.125
Medis El	5.75	0
Memco	25.625	+1.5
Mercury	21.125	+0
Magic Software Enterprises	5.625	-0.4375
Netmanage	3.625	-0.09375
Nice Systems	47	-1
Neuro-Medical Systems	4.5	-0.25
Nur Tecnology	1.875	+0.25
Opti Systems Solutions	5.875	-0.3125
Orbotech	41.75	-2.125
Orckit	17.625	-0.375
Oshap Technologies	9.4375	-0.1875
Parmos	2.1875	-0.0625
Rada Electronics Ind	2	-0.0625
Arlely Advertising	2.5	-0.25
RIT Technologies	11.5	-1.375
Eshed Robotec (1982) Ltd	1.125	+0
Scitex Corporations	12	-0.4375
Silicom	5.375	+0.25
ISG Intl Software Group	13.25	-0.875
Sumolt Design	14.5	+0
Sapiens International	7.75	-0.375
Scanvec	2.5	-0.375
Taro Vit Ind	6.125	+0.375
Tat Technologies	7	+0.0625
Technomatix Technologies	31.25	-1.5
Teva	46.5625	-0.875
Top Image Systems	5.6875	-0.0625
Teledata Communications	32.125	-1.125
Tower Semiconductor	12	-1.5
Tadiran Telecomm	21	0.375
TTI Team Telecom Intl Ltd.	5.75	-0.125
TVG Technologies	1.0625	-0.03125
Vocaltec	25.5	-0.75
Wiz Tec Solutions	12.25	-0.5
Zag Industries Ltd	10	-0.375
Zoran Corporation	17	-0.75

NYSE

	LAST	CHANGE*
Blue Square	11.625	-0.25
Elscint	7.5	+0
PEC Israel Economic Corp	20.1875	-0.1875
Koor	20.9375	-0.1875
Simula Inc	16.375	-0.1875
Tadiran	36	-1.625

SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK (DATE 30-OCT-97)

LONDON

	LAST	CHANGE*
Batm Advanced	125.5	-3
Dmatek Ltd	39.5	+0
Geo Interactive Media	95	+0.5
Pilat	57.5	+0
S.E.A. Multimedia	19.5	+0
Selector	42.5	+0

SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK (DATE 30-OCT-97)

INTERNATIONAL SHARES

NEW YORK

	LAST	CHANGE*
Alza	25.5	-0.5
AMP Inc	44	-0.3125
AMR Corp	114.875	-2.125
ASA	26.875	+0.9375
Abbott Labs	60.1875	-0.6875
Advanced Micro	22.25	-1.875
Aetna Life	71.5625	-1
Affiliated Publ	17.875	0
Aflac	50.5	-1.5625
Ahmanson (HF)	60.375	-0.1875
Air Prods	76	+0.125
Alberto-Culv B	30.6875	+0.6875
Albertson's	36.5	+0.1875
Alcan Aluminum	28.375	-1.1875
Alex & Alex	-	-
Allegheny Power	-	-
Allied Signal	35.6875	-0.8125
Alcoa	72.1875	+0.75
Amax	32.125	-0.6875
Amdahl Corp	-	-
Amerada Hess	61.25	-1.125
Amer Brands	-	-
Amer El Power	47	-0.375
Amer Express	76.75	-2.5
Amer Genl Corp	49.625	-1
Amer Greeting	34.5625	-0.625
Amer Home Pr	74	+0.3125
Amer Intl	101.188	-2.8125
Amer Natl Ins	97	+0
Amer Power Conv	26	-1
Amer Stores	25	-0.5625
Amer T & T	48.125	-0.25
Ameritech	64.75	-0.25
Ametek Inc	23.0625	+0.375
Amgen	47.4375	+0.0625
Amoco	91	-0.6875
Analog Devices	29.6875	-0.8125
Anheuser-Busch	46.75	+6.875
Aon Corp	53.625	-1.625
Apple Computer	16.5	-1
Applied Magnetics	22.5	-1
Applied Materials	31.9375	-1.6875
Archer Daniels	22	-0.125
Armco	5.5	+0.0625
Armstrong World	66.0625	-0.375
Asarco	26.75	-1.375
Ashland Coal	26.875	+0.0625
Ashland Oil	46.375	+0.25
AST Research	-	
Atlantic Richfld	81.125	+1.0625
Auto Data Pro	50.5	-0.625
Autodesk	36	-0.1875
Avery Dennison	39.8125	-0.125
Avnet Inc	62.0625	-1.5
Avon Products	66.6875	-2
Balmco Corp	9.875	-0.25
Baker Hughes	45.3125	+0.4375
Ball Corp	35.0625	-0.5625
Baltimore Gas	27	-0.4375
Banc One Corp	50.625	-1.125
Bandag	50.625	-0.375
BankAmerica	69.75	-3.3125
Bank of Boston	79.6875	-4.125
Bank of New Yk	47.375	-0.3125
Bankers Trst NY	118.375	-3.8125
Barnett Banks	67.375	-3.25
Battle Mount Gd	6.375	+0.25
Bausch & Lomb	39.5625	-0.4375
Baxter Intl	46.625	-1.3125
Bay Network	30.9375	+0
Becton Dickinson	45.875	-0.6875
Bell Atlantic	79	-0.75
Bell Industries	16	-0.75
BellSouth	46.0313	-0.21875
HA Belo Corp	48.125	+0
Beneficial Corp	76.3125	-1.5
Bethlehem Steel	10.25	+0.125
Beverly Entprs	15.0625	-0.125
Biomet	23.5	+2.3125
Black & Decker	37.25	-2.1875
Boeing	46.875	-0.5625
Boise Cascade	35	-1.625
Bowater Inc	41.6875	-3.6875
Briggs & Strtn	49	-0.5625
Brisl Myrs Sqb	86.875	-1.375
Brit Airws ADR	97.9375	-0.125
Brit Steel ADR	26.625	-0.375
Brit Telecom	77	-0.75
Brown Group	14.9375	-0.6875
Brown & Sharpe	11.875	-0.0625
Browning Ferris	31.375	-2
Brunswick	33.3125	-0.125
Burlington Nthn	95.875	-0.0625
CBS Inc	-	-
CMS Energy Corp	36.375	-0.125
CPC Intern	99.5	-0.375
CSX Corporation	54	-0.4375
Cabot Corp	23.875	-0.25
Campbell Soup	50.875	-1.125
Capital Cts ABC	88.3125	-3.4375
Carolina Pwr Lt	35.125	-0.4375
Carpenter Tech	48.5	-0.75
Caterpillar	52.125	-0.875
Centerior Energy	12.5625	+0.0625
Centex Corp	58.25	-0.0625
Central & SW	21.5625	+0.1875
Ceridian	38.125	-0.8125
Champion Intl	55	-0.8125
Chrmg Shoppes	5.1875	+0.125
Chase Manhattan	115.75	-4.5
Chevron Corp	80.25	-0.6875
Chiquita Brands	16.5	-0.25
Chrysler	35.3125	-0.375
Chubb Corp	65.9375	-1.375
Cisco	79.9375	-0.5625
Citicorp	124.938	-4.4375
Clevld Cliffs	43.0625	-1.375
Clorox	70.5625	+2.0625
Coastal Corp	59.9375	-0.9375
Coca Cola	56.1875	-0.9375
Coca Cola Ent	28	+0.5625
Colgate Palmolv	67.9375	-1.3125
Comcast Corp A	27.8125	+0.4375
Compaq	61.25	-2.1875
Compute Ass Int	72.75	-2.375
Computer Sci	70.8125	-2
Conagra	31.5	-0.25
Cons Edison	33.75	-0.5625
Cons Freightwys	44.5	+0.125
Cons Nat Gas	54	+0.5625
Cons Rail	-	-
Cooper Inds	51.5625	-0.5625
Coors (Adolph)	34.6875	-0.4375
Corning Inc	44.875	-0.375
Crane	40.3125	-1.25
Crompton Knowles	25.25	+0.25
Crown Cork Seal	44.875	-0.1875
Cummins Engine	60.5625	-0.5
Curtiss-Wright	72.125	+0.125
Cypress Semicon	10.875	-0.5
Cyprus Mineral	21	+0.125
Cytec Indust	48.5	-0.5
DOE	30.9375	-0.0625
Dana Corp	47.25	-1.3125
Data General	19	4.375
Dayton Hudson	62.25	-1.25
De Beers	23.25	-1.375
Deere	52.0625	-1.0625
Delm Pwr & L	19.25	-0.125
Dell Computers	78	-5.5
Delta Air Lnes	98.5625	-2.4375
Deluxe Corp	32.6875	-0.3125
Detroit Edison	30.3125	+0.4375
Dial Corp Del	16.375	-0.25
Diebold Inc	44	-0.875
Digital Equip	50.375	+1.9375
Dillard Dep St	37.125	-0.5625
Disney (Walt)	80.625	-2.3125
Dominion Res	37.1875	+0.25
Donelley (RR)	33	-0.5625
Dover Corp	66.5	-1
Dow Chemicals	90.0625	-0.125
Dow Jones	46.4375	-0.4375
Dresser	41.6875	-0.8125
DSC Comm	24.5	-0.5
Duke Power	48.5	-0.0625
Dun & Bradst	27.625	-0.375
Du Pont	58.25	-0.5
E G & G Corp	19.1875	-1.6875
Eastern Ents	38.0625	-0.875
Eastman Kodak	59.6875	-0.875
Eaton Corp	97	-0.625
Echlin Inc	32.6875	-0.375
Emerson Elec	52.8125	-0.25
Engelhard Corp	17.5625	+0.125
Enron Corp	38	-0.8125
Ensearch Corp	-	-
Entergy Corp	24.8125	-0.0625
Enzo Biochem	16.25	-0.5
Ericsson	43.75	-0.75
Ethyl Corp	8.625	-0.125
Exxon	60.6875	+0.375
Exxon	60.6875	+0.375
FMC Corp	80.4375	-1.5
FPL Group	51.25	-0.1875
Fedders Corp	6	+0.0625
Federal Express	66.0625	-0.3125
Federal Mogul	42.5625	-0.4375
Fed Nat Mtge	47.5	-1.4375
Fieldcrest Can	33.5	+0.1875
First Bank Sys	-	-
First Chicago	72.5	-2.125
First Union	48.125	-1.1875
Fruit of the Loom	25.5	-1
Fst Union Rlty	15.625	+0.125
Fleet Fnl Grp	63.875	-1.5625
Fleetwd Enterp	30.125	+0.125
Fleming Cos Ok	18.3125	-0.625
Florida Prog	32.1875	-0.0625
Fluor Corp	41.8125	-0.375
Food Lion Inc	7.4375	-0.09375
Ford Motor	43.875	-1.75
Foster Wheeler	31.125	-0.25
Freeport McMor	9.6875	-0.375
Galoob Toys	13.4375	-0.125
Gateway 2000	2.26	+0.03125
GATX Corp	64.125	+1.375
GTE Corp	42.25	+0.25
Gannett	52.3125	-0.3125
Gap Inc Del	52.5625	+1
Gencorp	24.1875	-0.3125
Gen Am Invest	26.25	-0.125
Gen Dynamics	81	+0.4375
Gen Electric	63.25	-1.625
Gen Mills	65.9375	-0.6875
Gen Motors	66	-2
Gen Motors H	62.1875	-1.4375
Gen Public Util	36.125	-0.6875
Gen Reinsurnce	198.188	-4.125
Gen Signal	39.9375	-0.0625
Gen DataComm	6.1875	-0.1875
Genuine Parts	31.3125	-0.625
Georgia Pac	86.75	-3
Gillette	88	-1
Glaxo ADR	41.4375	+0.1875
Golden W Fnl	85.4375	-1.125
Goodrich (BF)	43.375	-0.8125
Goodyear Tire	62.1875	+0.1875
Grace (W&R)	67.625	-1.375
Grainger (WW)	88	-0.625
Grt All Pac Tea	29.875	-0.375
Grt Central Mine	3.625	-0.25
Grt Western Fnl	-	-
Halliburton	59.4375	+0.9375
Hanna (MA)	25.625	+0.75
Harcourt	49.6875	-1.1875
Harley Davidson	27.75	-0.4375
Harnischfeger	39.1875	-0.4375
Harrah's Ent	19.5	+0.375
Harris Corp	43.6875	-0.9375
Harsco Corp	41.3125	-0.6875
Hartmax	7.8125	-0.125
Hasbro	28.5625	-0.6875
Hecla Mining	5.25	+0.1875
Heinz (HJ)	46	-0.8125
Helix Technol	44	+1.5
Hrrch & Payne	60.5	+0.5
Hercules	45.3125	-1.0625
Hershey Foods	56	+0.125
Hewlett Packard	60.6875	-0.9375
Hilton Hotels	30.125	-1.5625
Hirsch Int	18.8125	-0.4375
Hollinger	12.375	-0.375
Home Depot	54.25	-0.125
Homestake	12.75	+0.6875
Honeywell	67.5625	-3.5625
Hormel (Geo)	30.0625	+0
Household Intl	113.938	-1.4375
Houston Inds	21.5	+0.25
Humana	20.875	-0.6875
IBM	95.8125	-2.4375
Illinova Corp	22.125	-0.125
Illinois Tool	48.25	-0.6875
INCO	20.25	-0.4375
Ingersoll Rand	40.25	-0.625
Inland Steel	19.5	-0.5
Intel Corp	75.75	-1.5
Intergraph	10.5	-0.4375
Interlake	6.375	-0.125
Intl Fmly Ent B	-	-
Intl Flav & Fr	47.5625	-0.1875
Intl Multifoods	29.0625	+0.5625
Intl Paper	46.375	-1.375
Interpublic	47	-0.75
ITT Corp	73.375	-0.5625
James River Bs	-	
Jefferson Plt	78.625	-3.875
Johnson & J	56.5	-0.625
K Mart	13.125	+0.25
Kaiser Alum	12.625	+0
Kellogg	41.6875	-0.5625
KLA Instruments	40.9375	-5.3125
Kennametal	40	-0.75
Kerr-McGee	67.125	-0.1875
KeyCorp	60.125	-1.875
Kimberly-Clark	51.125	-0.875
King World Prod	46.625	+0.25
Knight Ridder	52	-1.1875
Kroger	31.9375	+0.5
LSI Logic	21.125	-1
Legget & Platt	41.125	-0.625
Leucadia Natl	34.375	-1.25
Lilly (Eli)	66.25	-1.5
Limited Inc	23.25	+0.625
Linear Technol	60.875	-1.25
Lincoln Nat	68	-0.4375
Litton	49.5625	-0.9375
Liz Claiborne	50.8125	-0.5
Lockheed Corp	94.25	-0.3125
Loews Corp	111	-0.4375
Lone Star	58.3125	-1.0625
Long Island Lt	25.125	-0.5
Longs Drug Strs	24.625	-0.5625
Loral Corp	20.875	-0.3125
Louisiana Land	-	
Louisiana Pacif	21.375	-0.125
Lowe's Co Inc	41.6875	-0.25
Lucent Tech	81.25	-1.125
Lubrizol	38	-0.375
Madge	6	-0.25
MCI Commun	35.5625	-0.1875
Mallinckrodt	37.75	-0.3125
Manor Care	38.5	-0.8125
Mapco Inc	33.3125	+0.0625
Marriott	67.625	-2.375
Mrsh & McLn	70.75	-1.25
Marvel	1.9375	+0
Masco Corp	43.625	-0.125
Massmutual Corp	43.4375	+0.1875
Mattel Inc	38.3125	-1.0625
Maytag Corp	32.75	-0.375
McDermott	34.5625	-0.6875
McDonalds	44.625	-1.0625
McGraw Hill	68.4375	+0.0625
McKesson Corp	105.25	-0.75
Mead Corp	62.3125	-1.25
Medtronic	43.375	-1
Mellon Bk	50.5625	-0.8125
Mentor Graphics	10.625	-0.5
Mercantile Strs	58.5625	-0.375
Merck Inc	87.5	-1.1875
Meredith Corp	34	+0.8125
Merrill Lynch	68.25	-2.5625
Micron Technol	25.25	-2
Microsoft Corp	128.625	-2.5
Millipore	40.4375	+1.4375
Mine Safety App	66.75	-2.75
Minnesota Mine	92.125	-1.3125
Mitchell Energy	24.875	-0.5
Mobil Corp	71.4375	-0.3125
Mobile Telecom	16.125	-0.3125
Molex Inc	35.125	-1.375
Monarch Macht	8.5	-0.125
Monsanto	42.6875	-0.3125
Morgan (JP)	110.375	-3.875
Morningstar Grp	40.875	-1.125
Morton Intl	32.5625	-0.5
Motorola Inc	58.25	-3.3125
Murphy Oil	57.5625	-0.25
Nacco Inds	100	-2.0625
Nalco Chemical	39.5	-0.5625
Nashua Corp	13.375	-0.1875
NationsBank	58.5	-2.625
Natl City Corp	56.25	-1
Natl Semi	34.5	-1.1875
Natl Serv Ind	44	+0.3125
NatWest Bank	66	-4.0625
Navistar Int	23	-0.5625
Netscape	33	-0.875
New England El	38.25	-0.5625
News Corp	18.625	+0.1875
NY State El Gas	26.5625	-0.0625
NY Times	52.75	+0.125
Newmont Mining	36.25	+1.0625
Niag Mohawk	9.375	-0.0625
Nicor Inc	37.4375	-1.125
Nike Inc	47.3125	-0.5
NL Industries	16.3125	-0.125
Noble Affil	40.75	-0.25
Nokia	84.1875	-2.4375
Nordstrom	60.375	+2.25
Norfolk Southrn	31.5625	-0.375
Northeast Util	11.25	-0.25
Novell	8.25	-0.09375
Nthn State Pwr	48.75	-0.4375
Northrop	108.125	-0.3125
Norwest Corp	31.4375	-0.75
NSI	4.5	-0.25
Occidental Pet	27.75	-0.375
Ogden Corp	25.1875	-0.1875
OEA	39.3125	-0.875
Ohio Casualty	43.8125	-0.25
Ohio Edison	23.875	-0.125
Olin Corp	45.375	+2
Omnicom Group	69	-0.8125
Oneok Inc	34	-0.1875
Oracle Systems	33.75	1.3125
Oryx Energy Co	27.0625	-0.0625
Oshkosh B'gosh	29.625	-0.875
Outboard Marine	-	-
Overseas Ship	24.125	-0.4375
Owens Corning	33.25	-0.4375
PHH Group	-	-
PNC Financial	46.9375	-1.5625
PPG Industries	55.6875	-0.5625
Paccar Inc	44.8125	-0.8125
Pacificorp	21.4375	-0.0625
Pac Enterprises	32.25	-0.125
Pac Gas & Elect	24.75	+0.5
Pac Telesis	-	-
Pall Corp	20.1875	-0.6875
Panh Eastern	-	-
Parker Drilling	14.6875	-0.125
Parker Hannifin	43.6875	+0.375
Penney (JC)	55.875	+0.5
Pennsyl Pwr Lt	21.1875	0.5
Pennzoil	[illegible]	1.3125
Peoples Energ	36	-0.5
Pepsico	35.75	-0.5
Perkin Elmer	61.4375	-1.625
Pfizer	71.75	+0.1875
Pharmacia & Upj	31.5	-0.25
Phelps Dodge	74.9375	-1.25
Philadel Elec	22.375	+0
Philip Morris	38.875	-0.625
Phillips Elec	76.375	2.375
Phillips Pet	47.875	+0.4375
Pioneer Hi Bred	90.625	+0
Pitney Bowes	79.125	-1.5
Policy Mgt Sys	82.6875	-1.375
Polycom	6	+0
Potash Corp	81.75	-1
Potomac El Pwr	22.125	-0.375
Procter & Gamble	67.25	-0.875
Pub Svc Enterpr	26.75	-0.25
Pug Snd Pwr	26.25	-0.4375
Quaker Oats	47.125	-0.125
Qualcom	54.25	-3.0625
Quanex Corp	27.3125	-0.9375
RJR Nabisco	30.5625	-0.125
Ralston Purina	89.4375	+0.125
Rank Orgnsn ADR	11.25	-0.375
Raychem Corp	90.625	-1.625
Raytheon	54.375	-0.875
Reebok Intl	36.625	-0.5625
Reynolds Reyn A	17.4375	-0.25
Reynolds Metals	61.3125	-1.0625
Rite Aid Corp	58.9375	+0.375
Roadway Services	51.0625	-1.0625
Rockwell Intl	48.75	-0.25
Rohm & Haas	82.5	-0.125
Rohr Industries	29.5625	-0.875
Rouse	28.25	+0.1875
Rowan	37.75	-0.4375
Royal Dutch	52	-0.5
Rubbermaid	24	-0.0625
Ruddick	15.5	-0.4375
Russell Corp	28.5625	-1
Ryder System	34.875	+0
Rymer Co	-	-
SPS Technology	44.8125	-0.0625
Safeco Corp	47.5	-0.125
Safety-Kleen	21.1875	-0.75
St Paul's Cos	79.125	-1.8125
Salomon Inc	77	-1.1875
San Diego Gas	24.375	+0
Sara Lee Corp	49.875	-0.125
Schering Plough	57	+0.75
Schlumberger	87.8125	+1.875
Scientif Atlanta	17.3125	-0.6875
Scripps	41.5	-0.5
Seagate Tech	26.0625	-1
Seagram	33.375	-0.9375
Sears Roebuck	41.0625	-0.9375
Sensormatic Elec	14.9375	-0.1875
Service Corp I	29.9375	-0.5625
Service Master	23.8125	-0.875
Shared Medical	-	-
Shell Trans	41.8125	+0
Sherwin Willms	27.5625	-0.3125
Shoney's Inc	4.75	-0.25
Sigma Aldrich	33.875	-0.375
Silicon Graphics	14.25	-1.5
Skyline Corp	28.75	-0.3125
Smith Intl	76.125	-1.125
SmKline Bchm A	46.125	+0.5
Snap-On-Tools	43.1875	-0.375
Sonat	47	-0.125
Sonocco Prods	32.75	-0.625
Sony Corp ADR	83.25	+0.875
Southdown	55.125	-0.875
Southern Co	22.625	-0.25
Sth N. Eng Tel	42.4375	-0.375
Southw Airlines	32.5	-0.3125
Southwestn Bell	63.875	+0.3125
Spring Inds	45.4375	-0.625
Sprint Corp	50.875	-1.75
Standard Prods	27	-1.25
Stanley Works	41.6875	+0
Stone Container	12.75	-0.6875
Storage Technol	57.125	-0.25
Stratus Comp	34.875	-1.75
Sun America	2.375	+0.125
Sun Company	39.8125	+0.1875
Sundstrand	53.6875	+1
Sun Microsystms	32.875	-1.5
Suntrust	64	-1.3125
Supervalu	35.875	-0.3125
Symantec	21.9375	+0.6875
Sysco Corp	38.625	+0.1875
TJX Cos Inc	29.75	+0.75
TRW Inc	57.25	-0.875
Tab Products	12.125	+0
Tambrands	-	-
Tandem Comp	-	-
Tandy Corp	35.375	-0.0625
Telecom Corp	22.9375	-0.25
Telefonos de Mex	40.875	-2.4375
Temple Inland	59	-0.875
Tenneco	45.625	-0.75
Teradyne	36.125	-3.5
Tesoro Pet	16.625	-0.375
Texaco	57.3125	-0.5625

هكذا من الأصل

TASE falls following world markets

Tel Aviv

Israeli shares tumbled again, following world markets. The followed Wednesday's jump of more than 7 percent in the country's indexes.

The Maof Index fell 2.65% to 288.03. The Mishtanim Index dropped 2.74% to 279.02. The Tel Aviv Continuous Trading Index of 60 stocks fell 3.15%, to 95.17. Fifteen issues were added to the TACT index as of yesterday. "When there are large drops forecast in New York, there are large drops forecast here," said Jonathan Half, director of research at Oscar Gruss & Son Inc. He said *there are expectations of renewed* drops in New York because of forecasts of accelerating US inflation.

"There are still nervous markets around the world, so why should Israel be different?"said *Zvi Hoffman, co-managing director at* Meitav Ltd. The Israeli shares listed on Wall Street "give us exposure to both markets." "The way the finance minister is handling the budget situation is good," Hoffman said, but added it still doesn't *impress investors right now.*

Europe

UK stocks fell as US markets opened lower, and after Asian markets sank overnight amid concern surging interest rates will erode corporate profits.

The FT-SE 100 Index fell 133 points, or 2.7%, to 4738.8, having earlier clocked its biggest percentage decline in five years, falling 3.4% to 4707.3.

The decline was led by HSBC Holdings Plc, the parent of Hongkong Bank and Britain's largest bank. Companies that have U.S.-traded shares, such as SmithKline Beecham Plc, were dragged down by weaker US *stocks.*

"This is a general malaise, it isn't just about Hong Kong," said Gareth Williams, a strategist at ABN Amro Hoare Govett in London. "There are bigger worries about this being the start of a glob*al fall and the U.S. influence is* crucial."

The broader FT-SE 250 Index fell 35.2 points to 4632.9, while the Actuaries 350 Index, a combination of the other two, lost 35.8 points to 2319.6.

Companies that make much of their profit in Asia suffered from the drop of Hong Kong shares.

"The fear is that Far Eastern markets are signaling fundamental problems with economies worldwide and that is serving to frighten other markets," said John Parrot, head of research at Commercial Union Asset Management, which manages funds worth £6 billion pounds.



Maof 288.03 ▼ 2.65%

Dow Jones 7381.7 ▼ 1.6%

FTSE 4776.20 ▼ 1.96%

Nikkei 16364.94 ▼ 2.92%

Asia

Hong Kong stocks fell after Moody's Investors Service downgraded its rating for the region's banks to "negative" from "sta*ble," saying higher interest rates* will hurt banks by depressing property prices and demand for loans.

The 33-stock Hang Seng Index fell 402.44 points, or 3.7 percent, to 10362.9.

Japanese stocks fell, led by Sony Corp., Toyota Motor Corp. and Sumitomo Bank Ltd., amid concern turmoil in other Asian markets and a sluggish economy at home will hurt corporate profits.

Signs that domestic consumption still hasn't recovered from an April tax increase cast doubt on earnings even at auto and electronics makers, which had outperformed the overall market on optimism about strong export sales.

"The bottom line is that the scenario of a weak economy and stagnating corporate profits isn't getting any better," said Yasunori Nakazawa, who helps oversee 8.4 trillion yen as a managing director at Daiwa Asset Management Co.

The benchmark Nikkei 225 stock average dropped 492.1 points, or 2.9%, to 16,364.94. Declines by banks and electronics pulled down the broader Topix average of all shares on the first *section of the Tokyo Stock* Exchange. It dropped 31.58 points, or 2.4 percent, to 1275.21.

The most recent sign of a weak domestic economy was a key government report Wednesday that said industrial output will probably show a decline in October and November. Industrial production figures have declined five out of the last eight months. (Bloomberg)

Wall Street

Stocks slid anew yesterday on concern the market turmoil in Southeast Asia may be causing liquidity problems in Latin American markets.

Based on early and unofficial results, the Dow Jones industrial average ended with a loss of 125.00 points, or 1.6 percent, at 7,381.67 after giving back an earlyrally.

In the broader market, declining issues outnumbered advances 3-1 on heavy volume of 712 million shares on the New York Stock Exchange.

The Nasdaq composite index sank 32.35 points, or 2 percent, to 1,570.40.

Dollar falls amid stocks weakness

The dollar tumbled against the mark and fell against other major currencies yesterday, as US stocks declined in early trading, as expected.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 81 points in early trading, causing the dollar to hold the losses it suffered in earlier *trading on expectation of a weak* stock performance.

This week, the dollar tracked stock market fluctuations more closely than usual, amid concern that global investors selling US assets would sell their dollar proceeds.

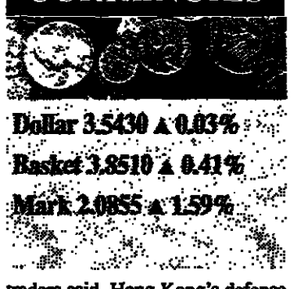
"We're on the same roller coaster ride we were on Wednesday," said Roger Chapin, manager of foreign exchange at Banc One Corp. in Columbus, Ohio. "The only thing people are focused on is, 'What are the equities doing?' We shouldn't have that close of a correlation, but in the last few days that's all people have been thinking and talking about."

The dollar fell as low as 1.7105 marks and was last at 1.7209 marks from 1.7335 marks Wednesday. It also fell to 120.38 yen from 120.80 yen.

*The dollar pared losses in mid*morning trading as US stocks rebounded from earlier lows.

*Hong Kong shares fell again yes*terday, after Wednesday's short-lived rebound. A rout in Hong Kong stocks since last week depressed global markets and dragged the Dow Jones down 554 points Monday, a record point decline.

Concern about Asian financial markets will persist as long as the Hong Kong government maintains its currency peg to the US dollar,



Dollar 3.5430 ▲ 0.03%

Basket 3.8510 ▲ 0.41%

Mark 2.0855 ▲ 1.59%

traders said. Hong Kong's defense of its currency sent interest rates skyrocketing. While higher rates make Hong Kong dollar-denominated deposits more attractive, they also boost company borrowing costs and can crimp earnings.

"If people are looking for safe havens between the US and Germany, Germany is a slightly better safe haven," said John Praveen, *global market strategist at* BEA Associates. "The Southeast Asian crisis will affect the US more than it will affect Europe."

Hong Kong has been pegging its currency at about 7.8 to the US dollar for the past 14 years. Speculation it would abandon the peg sparked the Hong Kong decline, while rising interest rates accelerated it.

Traders also are buying marks and shunning dollars on expectation Germany will raise interest rates sooner and by a greater margin than the US. The crisis engulfing Southeast Asia and the resulting decline in global stocks could mean slower global growth and lessened likelihood that the US Federal Reserve will raise interest rates.

Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan also quelled rate rise expectations Wednesday, saying inflation is low and falling.

"This Asian crisis has postponed expectation of any move in US rates by the Fed," Praveen said. "People are expecting the Bundesbank will raise rates between now and next May. That's putting downward pressure on the dollar. The interest rate differentials are in favor of Germany."

"What we've recently learned is that when Asia catches cold, the US also sneezes," said Makoto Sato, manager for foreign exchange at Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi Ltd. "The Asian malaise won't be solved overnight. That's hurting investors' confidence in bidding up the dollar."

(Bloomberg)

Oil rises on Middle East tension

Precious metals

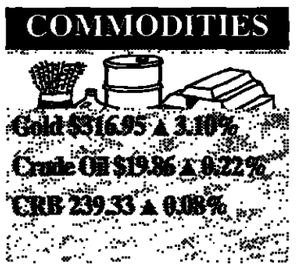
Gold was little changed in inter-bank trading in London. Prices fell in afternoon Asian trading as investors sold the precious metal, their enthusiasm dampened by concern of further central bank sales. Last Friday gold fell near a 12-year low in *London after a Swiss government* report recommended Switzerland's central bank sell half its gold reserves, or about 1,400 metric tons. Spot gold fell 30 cents to $313.55 an ounce.

Platinum and palladium prices fell in inter-bank trading. Spot platinum fell $3.75 to $404.25 an ounce, while spot palladium fell $2.50 to $211 an ounce.

Oil

Brent crude oil futures opened 20 cents higher at $19.84 a barrel, after the UN condemned Baghdad's decision to expel US members of the UN weapons inspections team from Iraq. In a statement Wednesday night, after Brent trading had finished, the UN warned of the "serious conse*quences" of Iraq's failure to com*ply with the UN weapons inspectors, charged with ridding Iraq of its weapons of mass destruction in the aftermath of the Gulf war.

Traders are concerned these "consequences" could include the *UN canceling Iraq's limited oil* sale, which it sanctions, which supplies about 1.2 million barrels a day of crude to world markets, equivalent to about 1 percent of global supply.



Gold $316.95 ▲ 3.10%

Crude Oil $19.86 ▲ 0.22%

CRB 239.33 ▲ 0.08%

Others

Copper fell in inter-bank trading. The London Metal *Exchange's global copper stock*pile rose for a third day, as demand in Southeast Asia sagged and global output soared. Copper held in LME-registered warehouses rose 3,375 tons to 338,800 tons in the latest daily report. The current figure follows almost four months of near-uninterrupted inventory increases. Rio Tinto Plc, the world's largest mining company, said Wednesday that output from its Kennecott Utah copper smelter more than tripled to 35,500 tons in the third quarter. The increase came even as slower economic growth in Asia *reduced demand for metals.* Three-month copper fell $16 to $2,003-2,008 a ton on the LME.

Nickel prices fell in inter-bank trading. Jubilee Gold Mines NL, an Australian nickel and gold explorer, said it has received *further high grade results from* its Cosmos nickel project in Western Australia state. Three-month nickel fell $30 to $6,300/$6,310 a ton on the LME.

Robusta coffee for January delivery opened $12 lower at $1,508 a ton on the London International Financial Futures and Options Exchange. On Wednesday in New York coffee fell close to last week's 8 1/2-month low as newly harvested beans arrived in the US from Latin America, replenishing US roasters' supplies.

Coffee from harvests in Colombia, Brazil, and Central America are bolstering supplies as roasters prepare for a jump in consumer demand with the arrival of colder weather in coming months. Also weighing on prices was expectation that *Hurricane Pauline caused less* damage to the coffee crop in Mexico, the biggest supplier to the US, than earlier thought, further boosting inventories.

(Bloomberg)

US bonds rise as stock market declines

US bonds rose for the fourth time in five days as falling stock prices and dwindling concern the Federal Reserve will raise interest rates boosted the allure of Treasury securities.

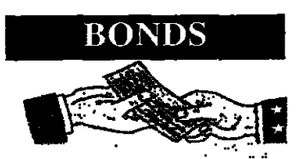
The recent worldwide stock declines "will slow down our economy a little bit and keep the Fed at bay," said Frank Rachwalski, of Zurich Kemper Investments in Chicago. "We have *a decent outlook for the fixed*income markets."

Last week, Rachwalski saw a better than 50 percent chance US central bankers would boost the cost of borrowing by year-end. The rout in the world's stock markets since then, though, has pushed back any move to at least February, he said.

The benchmark 30-year Treasury bond rose 18/32, or $5.63 per $1,000 bond, to 102 28/32, pushing its yield down 4 basis points to 6.16 percent. Earlier bonds rose as much as 29/32. The yield on the two-year notes sold Tuesday was steady at *5.59%. Rachwalski extended the* maturities of his money market portfolios in recent days, a bet that yields won't jump with a Fed rate increase anytime soon.

Thirty-year yields dropped 26 basis points in the past week as investors flocked to the US debt market, seen as the safest place to park money. Stocks in Asia and Europe fell again yesterday.

"We're trading tick for tick with



US 30-year T-bill yield

6.16 ▼ 0.4

stocks," said Patrick Dimick, a bond strategist at UBS Securities. "This is not going to stop until the equity market is on much firmer footing."

Bonds Wednesday surged after Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan suggested the robust economy may slow in coming months. That would curtail the threat of rising *inflation, which eats into the value* of bonds' fixed returns.

The comments also backed up the view that the Fed won't raise the cost of borrowing, which could aggravate international market turmoil. For his part, *Greenspan also said the stock mar*ket's recent drop may slow the "unsustainable pace" of job creation.

The Fed last raised the target for overnight lending, the federal funds rate, by 25 basis points to 5.5%. Policy makers next meet on November 12.

Declining expectations for a Fed rate increase are reflected in three-month Eurodollar futures contracts. The March Eurodollar futures contract has an implied *yield of 5.76%, 1 basis points* above the current rate for three-month borrowing. That's down from 5.99% early last week.

Bonds barely budged after the government said the number of workers applying for unemploy*ment benefits last week fell by* 16,000 to 297,000, the lowest since July. "The labor market is getting tighter and tighter," said Robert McGee, chief economist at Tokai Bank.

Also yesterday, the Commerce Department said sales of new single- family homes unexpectedly fell 0.2% to a seasonally adjusted 800,000 in September.

(Bloomberg)

	LAST	CHANGE*
Texas Instruments	103.25	-11.1875
Texas Utilities	35.625	-0.4375
Textron	57.25	+0.1875
Thiokol	29.25	+0.625
Thomas & Betts	49.6875	-0.9375
ThreeCom	40.25	-5
Time Warner	57.75	-0.3125
Times-Mirror	53.75	-0.125
Timken	33	-0.9375
Torchmark	40	-0.5625
Tosco Corp	31.1875	+1.25
Total Pet N Am	-	-
Toys R Us	33.4375	-0.5
Transamerica	101.875	-0.5
Transco Energy	56.8125	-0.625
Travellers Grp	69.4375	-0.9375
Tribune	54.375	+0.8125
TRINOVA Corp	-	-
Triton Energy	38.3125	-0.8125
TWA	7.4375	-0.1875
Tyco Labs	39	-0.0625
Tyler	4.625	-0.375
UAL Corp	98.0625	-2.6875
USG Corp	45.875	-0.625
UST Inc	90.375	-0.25
USX Marathon	34.5625	+0.125
USX-US Steel	33.5625	+0.5
Unicom Corp	27.8125	+0.1875
Unilever NV	90	+0.3125
Union Carap	54.0625	-0.6875
Union Carbide	46.5	-0.8125
Union Electric	37.5	-0.3125
Union Pacific	62.0625	-1.125
Unisys Corp	13	-0.5
USAIR Group	45.875	-0.625
USF&G Corp	19.1875	-0.25
US Home	55.5625	-0.125
US Life	-	-
US Robotics	-	-
US Surgical	26.75	-0.25
US Trust	58.125	+1.125
US West	38.25	-0.375
United Tech	89.9375	-2.0625
Unocal Corp	39.9375	+0
VF Corp	88.9375	-0.0625
Valero Energy	29.9375	-0.0625
Varian Assoc	58	-1.3125
Viacom Inc	29.125	-0.625
Vishay	22.375	-0.5
Vulcan Materials	86.5	-1.75
Wachovia	73.9375	-1.125
Walgreen	28	+0.25
Wal-Mart Stores	34.75	+0
Warner-Lambert	138.375	-4.1875
Wash Gas Light	25.625	-0.125
Washington Post	429.063	-3.8875
Waste Mgmnt Inc	23.25	-5.75
Watkins-Johnson	30.1875	-0.5625
Wells Markets	34.5	+0.125
Wells Fargo	268.25	-7.75
Wendy's Intl	20.875	-0.1875
Westinghouse El	26.625	-0.875
Westvaco	32.875	-0.375
Weyerhaeuser	47.125	-1.5
Whirlpool	80.5	-0.3125
Whittman	26.25	-0.375
Williams Co	51.0625	-0.0625
Winn Dixie Stor	56.4375	-0.5
Woolworth	18.625	-0.25
World Comm	32.3375	-1
Worthington Ind	20.5	+0.125
Wrigley	71.8125	-0.375
Xerox	78.25	-5.1875
Yellow Freight	25.5625	-0.4375
Zenith Electron	8.0625	-0.25
Zero Co	26.8125	-0.1875

	LAST	CHANGE*
Dresdner Bk	-	-
Hoechst	-	-
Lufthansa	30.01	-1.39
Mannesmann	736	-5
Metallgesellschaft	34.2	-1.3
Porsche	-	-

SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK (DATE 30-OCT-97)

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

	Last	Change
Sat (Basket) (1)	3.951	0
U.S. Dollar (1)	3.543	0
British Pound (1)	5.9051	0
Deutsch Mark (1)	2.0655	0
French Franc (1)	0.6164	0
Japanese Yen (100)	2.9488	0
Swiss Franc (1)	2.5345	0
Canadian Dollar (1)	2.5186	0
Italian Lira (1000)	2.1025	0
Jordanian Dinar (1)	4.9765	0

NEW YORK MARKET INDEXES

	Last	Change
DJ Industrials	7381.67	-125
DJ Transport	3091.65	-43.54
DJ Utils	241.33	-1.04
DJ Comp	2424.44	-34.13
NYSE Industr	565.41	-7.78
NYSE Transport	449.71	-5.03
NYSE Comp	475.83	-7.1
S&P 100	882.81	-18.64
S&P Spot Index	903.68	-15.48

OTHER MARKET INDEXES

	Last	Change
FTSE 100	4801.9	-68.9
Tokyo Nikkei	16364.9	-492.1
Singapore all-share index	394.45	0
Hong Kong Hang Seng index	10362.8	-402.5
Israel Index	261.77	-8.24
Paris CAC 40	2739.47	-78.53
DAX	3791.81	+224.59
Madrid	532.14	+46.1
Swiss Bank	2510.95	+89.95
Sydney	2436.1	-6.9
Milan	-	-

DOLLAR CROSSRATES (US)

	Last	Change
Pound: spot	1.5707	+0.0007
Dec.future (CME)	1.564	-0.0039
D-mark: spot	1.7171	-0.0105
Dec.future (CME)	0.5827	+0.003
S-franc: spot	1.3973	-0.0119
Dec.future (CME)	0.7176	+0.0055
Yen: spot	120	-0.8
Dec.future (CME)	0.00836	+3.2e-005
CanDlr: spot	1.4084	+0.0062
Dec.future (CME)	0.7116	-0.0037
AusDlr: spot	0.7006	+0.002
Dec.future (CME)	0.7135	+0.0032
F-franc: spot	5.758	-0.026
It Lira: spot	1695.75	-10.25
Ntg: spot	1.9375	-0.0097
AusShtg: spot	12.125	-0.0589
Rand: spot	4.84	+0.032
ECU: spot	1.1447	+0.0039

US COMMODITIES

	Last	Change
Cocoa (Dec) (CEC)	1587	-16
Coffee (Dec) (CEC)	148.15	-2.45
Wheat (Dec) (CBOT)	359.75	+1
Soybean (Nov) (CBOT)	695	+4
Sugar (Mar) (CEC)	12.3	-0.3
Orange juice (Nov)(CEC)	68.65	-0.15
Bonds Dec.future	118.156	+0.59375
S and P Dec.future	903.1	-21.15

LONDON COMMODITIES

	Last	Change
Cocoa (Dec) (LCE)	1048	-7
Coffee (Nov) (LCE)	1475	-22
Brent crude oil (Dec)(IPE)	-	-

SPOT MARKET METALS (US)

	Last	Change
Silver: spot	4.86	+0.06

NEW YORK METAL FUTURES

	Last	Change
Gold (Dec)	317.2	+2.2
Silver (Dec)	4.867	+0.072
Platinum (Jan)	405.3	+2.6
Palladium (Dec)	208.9	-5.1
High-grade copper (Dec)	0.8095	-0.001

LONDON METAL FIXES

	Last	Change
Gold AM fix	314	+0.3
Gold PM fix	316.75	+3.25
Silver fix	490.6	+1.3

Month in parentheses signals contract exp. date. (Spot market listings are from approximately 23:30 Israel time. All others are closing quotes.)
SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK
DATA COMMUNICATIONS VIA ABA COMPUTER SYSTEMS LIMITED REPAIRS MAINTENANCE & SUPPLY

LONDON

Allied Domecq	487	-9.5
BAT Inds	520	-22.5
BT	457	-3.75
BTR	202.75	-2.5
Barclays	1498	-14
Bass	785	+23.5
Boots	850	-17.5
British Airways	582	-15.5
British Gas	-	-
General Electric	377	+6.5
Grand Met	558	-8
Glaxo	1245	-11
Guiness	530	-12.5
HSBC (75p shs)	1478	-58
Hanson	-	-
ICI	903	-14.5
Land Securities	988	+3.5
Lloyds Bank	740	-15
Marks & Spencer	624	-21.5
NatWest Bank	900	-39
Prudential	624.5	-38
Reuters	643	+11
Sainsbury	499	-8.75
Shell Transport	419	-7.75
Unilever	444	-4.5

PARIS

Accor	1070	-27
Air Liquide	-	-
Alcatel Alsthom	700	-15
Euro Disney	-	-
Saint Gobain	405	-7.50

FRANKFURT

Allianz AG	-	-
BASF	-	-
Bayer	51.9	+0.1
Commerzbank	-	-
Daimler-Benz	113.3	-0.2
Deutsche Bank	-	-

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ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (3.9.97)

Currency (deposit for:)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar ($250,000)	4.750	4.875	5.250
Pound sterling (£100,000)	5.250	5.375	5.750
German mark (DM 200,000)	1.750	1.875	2.375
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0.000	0.125	0.500
Yen (10 million yen)	—	—	—

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (30.10.97)

	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS Buy	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS Sell	BANKNOTES Buy	BANKNOTES Sell	Rep. Rates**
Currency basket	3.8206	3.8823	—	—	3.8510
U.S. dollar	3.5166	3.5734	3.45	3.63	3.5430
German mark	2.0453	2.0783	2.01	2.11	2.0655
Pound sterling	5.8668	5.9615	5.76	6.05	5.9051
French franc	0.6106	0.6205	0.60	0.63	0.6164
Japanese yen (100)	2.9275	2.9748	2.87	3.02	2.9488
Dutch florin	1.8144	1.8437	1.78	1.87	1.8320
Swiss franc	2.5131	2.5537	2.47	2.59	2.5345
Swedish krona	0.4695	0.4771	0.46	0.49	0.4729
Norwegian krone	0.5005	0.5086	0.49	0.52	0.5053
Danish krone	0.5376	0.5463	0.52	0.56	0.5425
Finnish mark	0.6806	0.6916	0.66	0.71	0.6874
Canadian dollar	2.5019	2.5423	2.45	2.58	2.5186
Australian dollar	2.4618	2.5014	2.41	2.54	2.4809
S. African rand	0.7269	0.7387	0.65	0.74	0.7323
Belgian franc (10)	0.9917	1.0077	0.97	1.03	1.0010
Austrian schilling (10)	2.9060	2.9529	2.85	3.00	2.9348
Italian lira (1000)	2.0820	2.1158	2.04	2.15	2.1025
Jordanian dinar	4.9460	5.0258	4.88	5.22	4.9779
Egyptian pound	1.0000	1.0900	1.00	1.09	1.1160
ECU	4.0239	4.0889	—	—	4.0608
Irish punt	5.2802	5.3654	5.18	5.44	5.3269
Spanish peseta (100)	2.4205	2.4596	2.37	2.50	2.4451

*These rates vary according to bank. **Bank of Israel.
SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

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SADDAM

Continued from Page 1

The security source discounted the notion that the botched attack on Mashaal would serve as a deterrent to the Mossad: "They are now burning with ambition to show that their ability to carry out such an operation still exists," he said.

The newsletter also reveals details about the 1992 operation, which it says was the subject of a bitter dispute between then-Mossad head Shabtai Shavit and then-OC Military Intelligence Uri Saguy. According to the newsletter, the conflict became so intense that the two almost came to blows during a meeting with the late prime minister Yitzhak Rabin.

"Saguy claimed that Shavit was incapable of providing the information needed to hit Saddam," reported the newsletter. "Shavit, angry, showed him detailed information about a village in northern Iraq that Saddam used as a 'hideaway' for clandestine meetings with a friend and as a base for visits to a secret military site nearby. Shavit added that the Mossad would know when his next visit was due and tip off the army. Israeli commandos could then finish the job.

"Most of the senior politicians and intelligence officers present at the stormy meeting were skeptical about the Mossad's information. So they opted for a compromise," the newsletter continued. "As a first step, they asked Shavit to provide information that would enable a small group of trained soldiers to go to a spot near the village to see if the Mossad's information was indeed reliable. It seemed that it was."

However, when military intelligence reports for the day in question came through, it emerged that while the Israeli commandos were monitoring Saddam in the North, the dictator was in Baghdad at a meeting of the ruling Ba'ath Party.

"The Mossad's face turned bright red. But not for long," added the newsletter. "The Israelis found that the man looking like Saddam in Baghdad – and appearing on Iraqi television – was his double. This convinced prime minister Rabin to approve the full operation – only to call it off after the Israeli soldiers were accidentally killed."

REFORM

Continued from Page 1

"We are not going to tailor our beliefs to those who have a fundamentally different view of Jewish tradition and who will search out any excuse to deny us equal rights in the State of Israel."

Some 4,000 delegates are scheduled to vote on resolutions on civil recognition of gay marriages and rabbinic officiation at intermarriages. These resolutions have been raised at previous conventions.

The grassroots appear to support officiation at intermarriage, and numerous rabbis already perform such services. But the Reform movement's rabbinic arm has balked at endorsing the idea.

Gays are welcomed in Reform congregations, and there has been wide support for civil recognition of gay marriages. In this case, too, the laity is seen as nudging the rabbis toward the religious sanctioning of these unions.

But in light of the delicate state of negotiations over recognition for Reform and Conservative Judaism in Israel, the timing of the resolutions is awkward, Uri Regev, director of the Reform movement's Israel Religious Action Center, acknowledged.

But, he added here yesterday, "what is right has to be addressed, even if it entails a cost. We cannot base the direction of our movement, which is a religious movement, on public opinion polls."

Regev said he would not suggest that the American Reform movement "use as a deciding factor how [a position] would play out in Israel."

In Jerusalem, however, Rabbi Ehud Bandel, president of Israel's Conservative movement and its representative on the Neeman Committee, warned the American Reform movement not to take extreme positions which could work to undermine the negotiations in Israel.

He did not directly refer to intermarriage or gay marriage, but these are issues over which the Orthodox establishment in Israel has often criticized the Reform.

"I call to the Reform movement to weigh their decisions very carefully and to do nothing to sabotage this unique opportunity for a historic rapprochement," Bandel said.

Late yesterday, the convention was to consider a resolution on religious freedom in Israel. In draft form, the resolution issues no threats if the government fails to extend equal recognition and support to all streams of Judaism. But the language could be changed in the plenary session, which provides the first public forum for the Reform rank and file to vent their spleen about their status in Israel.

The resolutions on the table run from the profound to the politically correct. For example, a group of Californians – dubbed the "redwood rabbis" – have offered a resolution opposing a logging project in the Headwater forest in Northern California. Cutting the ancient redwoods, some of which are 2,000 years old, would endanger the environment, say the rabbis. Their target is the Pacific Lumber Company, whose chief executive is Charles Hurwitz – a Reform Jew.

MK Shimon Peres is to address the convention today. He had been scheduled to attend two years ago, but that appearance was postponed after the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin.

Ambassador Eliahu Ben-Elissar and Regev are expected to address the delegates tomorrow night.

In a related development, the Meretz representatives on the Herzliya Municipal Council yesterday nominated Simha Roth, a member of a Conservative congregation, for the local religious council.

However, like other non-Orthodox nominees, Roth will have to wait until after the January deadline to petition the High Court if, as expected, the Religious Affairs Ministry blocks the nomination.

Haim Shapiro contributed to this report

FUNDS

Start preparing now for a Hanukka of good cheer

By BEVERLEE BLACK

I'm told by my English associates that I have adopted the saying of a very popular BBC radio show that everyone in Britain listened to during the darkest days of the second World War: "It's being so cheerful that keeps me going."

This expression came to mind on receipt of a letter from a social worker at a municipality in the North: "I cannot express enough gratitude and appreciation for your response to my request. The beautiful new toys you have sent, in such a generous amount, have been given to the needy family and are helping the children's development immeasurably. The grateful mother has already noted a change in her children."

The social worker continues – and this is what made my day so cheerful: "I am so moved, that I am enclosing a personal donation of NIS 50. God bless you."

Need I say more? But I will.

Rosh Hashana and Succot are over, but Hanukka is just around the corner. Almost five decades ago Helen Rossi founded the Toy Fund in order to provide Hanukka presents for new immigrants living in the winter mud of the *ma'abarot* (tent camps). Things have changed in Israel, but many families are still stuck in the mud – not the water and earth sort, but the mud that is created by insufficient education, lack of funds, cultural deprivation, etc.

This is where you come in. Help keep me smiling by sending a donation today. Mail your checks to: The Jerusalem Post Funds, P.O. Box 81, Jerusalem 91000.

Donors in the United States wishing to receive tax benefits, can send their donations to: Friends of The Jerusalem Post Funds, 211 E. 43rd Street, New York, NY 10017. Please designate in your letter to which fund you wish to donate.

FORSAKE ME NOT

NIS 1,000 In memory of Yehuda Prihar – Shula and Family, Tzahala.
NIS 900 Anon., Rehovot.
NIS 360 For my special birthday – Asne and Barry Samuels, Ra'anana.
NIS 300 Mr. and Mrs. E. Goldblatt, Toronto, Canada.
NIS 250 Anon., J'lm. Anon., J'lm.
NIS 180 Anon., Haifa. Susan Reiter, Haifa.
NIS 150 Shana Tova from the Yacobi Family, Tel Aviv.
NIS 116.66 Final payment from the Estate of Eva Danelius.
NIS 108 In loving memory of an extraordinary sister, Marion Markovitz – Sophie and Meir.
NIS 100 Violet and Julius Gluck, Savyon. Anon., Efrat. In memory of my grandparents – Michele Chabin, J'lm. In memory of our beloved father, Avraham Webber – Drs. Kalman and Harriet Vogel, Netanya. To honor the memory of our dear friend, Hilde Levy (nee Friedmann), who passed away after a long and painful illness a year ago – Raya Mizrahi and Steffi Schwarcz-Birnbaum, J'lm.
NIS 90 In loving memory of my parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. Ruben, my sisters, Eva Sudoff and Gertie Gould, and my brother, Sammy Ruben – Ella Berkovits, Haifa.
NIS 80 In honor of Trudy's energy and good cheer.
NIS 75 Marianne Kemeny, Haifa.
NIS 50 In loving memory of my dear parents, Sydney and Marcelle Bader – Maureen Wesseik, Ra'anana. In loving memory of my dear husband, Maury Okrent and our parents, Azriel and Rela Okrent and Max and Lea Samet – Selma Okrent, Tel Aviv. Refuah Shleima for my daughter, Sarah Solliway, Kibbutz Ramat Yohanan.
NIS 36 In memory of Michael P. Schmidt.
NIS 18 P. and J. Kaplan, Herzliya.
$180 In memory of our parents, Rabbi Simcha and Minnie Levy and Sylvan and Yetta Barish, our brother, Raphael and sister-in-law, Iris – Dr. and Mrs. Leon Levy, Mount Laurel, NJ.
$108 six times *hai* – In honor of our children, Benjamin, Jonathan, Sarah and Raphael – From their loving parents, Polly and Jean Hammel, St. Louis Park, MN.
$100 Anon., France. Martin Rabinowitz, W. Orange, NJ.
$89 In honor of Uncle Louie's 89th birthday - till 120 – Jackie and Jerry.
$54 David and Fay Gelnick, Bronx, NY. Adrienne Marks, Washington, DC.
$50 Nathan Vogel, New York, NY. In memory of our beloved parents, Louis and Sallie Kahme Bart – Ruth and Max Bart, San Jose, CA.
$36 In honor of the wedding of Devora Cerf and Noam Wagner – Mrs. I. Vromen, Ottawa, Canada. Solomon Jacob, Los Angeles, CA. Toby Katz, Manhasset, NY.
$25 Grant Newton, Sylva, NC. Mr. and Mrs. David Kaus, Gowanda, NY. E. W. and Helen Woodham, Newport, AR. Making amends for any insult and/or embarrassment I may have caused my grandfather, Michael, when he was alive – Allen Herschaft, Brooklyn, NY. Frank Sigelman, Baltimore, MD.
$20 In honor of Dvorah and Myron Kolka – Esther Goldman, Rochester, NY. M. Matzner, Edison, NJ. Roy Asper, Winnipeg, Canada. In loving memory of my brother, Judah Gazal – Esther Briant, Edison, NJ.
$18 In memory of Rabbi David Radnski's father – Mildred and Irving Sonenshine, Charleston, SC. In memory of Sadie and Harry Etman – Miriam Etman Lazar and Ruth Lazar. Judith Rotenberg, New York, NY. Anon., Somerset, NJ. In memory of my grandparents, Yecheskel and Chaya Eidelsberg – Morris Eidelsberg, Spring Valley, NY. The Rozmans, Forest Hills, NY. Beatrice and Bernard Kramer, Wallingford, CT.
$10 John Sander, Thiensville, WI.
$5 Scott Kevelson, W. Orange, NJ.
Can$200 Guenter and Holly Kern, Winnipeg, Canada.
£20 In memory of our dearest parents.
DFL300 H. A. Whitlau-Hofland.

New Donations	Progress Totals
NIS 5,954.66	NIS 140,340.66
$1,239	$40,225

(other currencies converted into shekels)

TOY FUND

NIS 300 Mr. and Mrs. E. Goldblatt, Toronto, Canada.
NIS 200 A special Shana Tova from Ori Yacobi, Tel Aviv.
NIS 118 Susan Reiter, Haifa.
NIS 100 Kay Robins, Kfar Sava. In memory of my husband, Shimon – R. Shabrinsky, Haifa. In honor of the birth of our ninth grandchild, daughter to Noa and Ronen Zahari – Rita and John Jacobs. Devorah Gold, Tel Aviv. To honor the memory of our dear friend, Hilde Levy (nee Friedmann), who passed away after a long and painful illness a year ago – Raya Mizrahi and Steffi Schwarcz-Birnbaum, J'lm.
NIS 80 In honor of Trudy's energy and good cheer.
NIS 72 In the name of Guy and Naama Levin and Ori and Tal Newman – Alexander Newman, Rehovot.
NIS 50 Elisa Katen, Yokneam.
$100 Martin Rabinowitz, W. Orange, NJ. In honor of our grandchildren, Yehuda, Shimon and Anna – Dr. and Mrs. Leon Levy, Mount Laurel, NJ.
$54 In honor of Gabriel E. Bernstein starting school – Avi Bernstein, Bayside, NY.
$50 Allen Herschaft, Brooklyn, NY. Doug Parker, Springfield, GA.
$36 Beatrice and Bernard Kramer, Wallingford, CT. In honor of the forthcoming marriage of Zvi Romm and Shira Pfeffer – Diane Romm, Bellmore, NY.
$20 In loving memory of my brother, Judah Gazal – Esther Briant, Edison, NJ. Roy Asper, Winnipeg, Canada. M. Matzner, Edison, NJ.
$18 Gayle Fay Feit Ginsberg, Wilmington, NC. Adriene Marks, Washington, DC. The Rozmans, Forest Hills, NY. Anon., Somerset, NJ. In honor of the birth of my great-grandchild, Kayla Sima, and my grandchildren, Jeffrey and Naomi Gross – Bill Wiener, Woodmere, NY and J'lm. In honor of Steven Kaplan's Bar Mitzvah – Shoshana Herzig, Northbrook, IL.
$5 Scott Kevelsdon, W. Orange, NJ.
Can$200 Guenter and Holly Kern, Winnipeg, Canada.
Can$25 In honor of Jack and Karen Rizika – S. Calmas, Chesnut Hill, MA.
£50 In memory of my old friend, Herbert Ben-Adi, who was Negev correspondent of *The Jerusalem Post* and his wife Ora – both now at rest – Leonard Camin, Kent, England.
£15 In memory of our dearest parents.

New Donations	Progress Totals
NIS 2,274	NIS 88,343
$699	$26,014

(other currencies converted into shekels)

WELCOME HOME FUND

NIS 150 To commemorate my becoming a citizen a year ago – Georgina Yacobi, Tel Aviv.
NIS 100 Kay Robins, Kfar Sava.
$150 Doug Parker, Springfield, GA.
$100 Anon., Yorktown, Hts., NY. Martin Rabinowitz, W. Orange, NJ.
$40 B. L. White, Franklin, TX.
$25 Allen Herschaft, Brooklyn, NY. Mr. and Mrs. David Kaus, Gowanda, NY.
$20 In loving memory of my brother, Judah Gazal – Esther Briant, Edison, NJ. Roy Asper, Winnipeg, Canada.
$18 Adrienne Marks, Washington, DC. The Rozmans, Forest Hills, NY. Anon., Somerset, NJ.
$5 Scott Kevelson, W. Orange, NJ.
Can$200 Guenter and Holly Kern, Winnipeg, Canada.
£15 In memory of our dearest parents.

New Donations	Progress Totals
NIS 849	NIS 36,604
$539	$11,153

(other currencies converted into shekels)

IRAQ

Continued from Page 1

The Security Council, which on Wednesday warned Iraq of "serious consequences" if it did not back down, is expected to discuss Iraq again this afternoon when Australian Richard Butler, the head of UNSCOM, may report to the 15-member body.

Rubin said he believed all Security Council members, including Russia, are making clear to Iraq that its attempt to discriminate between US and other UNSCOM members is unacceptable.

Despite the implied threat of military force, Rubin indicated that Washington hopes diplomacy will resolve the issue, saying he doubts that Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has decided to "take this all the way to the end of the game."

"I would expect that there would be a lot of diplomatic contact between key capitals and Baghdad in the course of the next hours and days. And hopefully, they will get the message and do the right thing," he said.

But Iraq remained defiant, saying it would not retreat and did not fear the use of force against it.

Bacon said US military forces in the Gulf included some 15 warships led by the aircraft carrier Nimitz and about 200 land and sea-based warplanes. Several of those ships are capable of firing Tomahawk cruise missiles.

The US fired cruise missiles at Iraqi targets in 1993, in retaliation for what Washington said was a Baghdad plot to kill former US president George Bush, and again last year to punish Iraq for attacking a Kurdish faction.

Bacon said the US military has no intention of complying with Iraq's demand that it halt reconnaissance overflights of Iraq in support of UN inspection teams in that country.

Rubin said the arms inspector dispute is a separate issue from a deal that provides Iraq with an exemption from UN trade sanctions, allowing Baghdad to export some oil in return for imports of food and medicine.

He appeared to rule out cancelation of the deal, which allows Baghdad to export $2 billion of crude every six months.

The two issues "are on separate tracks and I'm not aware there would be any need to change one or the other," he said.

The deal had made it easier for many countries to support the continuation of UN sanctions that were imposed on Iraq after it invaded Kuwait in 1990, he said.

Both Rubin and White House press secretary Mike McCurry said that in banning US inspectors, Saddam had "shot himself in the foot" by uniting countries that were beginning to quarrel over the sanctions issue.

LEFT

Continued from Page 9

The differences between the two movements came to the fore in the discussions leading up to the November 8 memorial for Rabin.

Meretz and Peace now wanted a hard-hitting, political rally. In fact, Peace Now originally scheduled a public protest for November 1 and had even printed a powerful poster showing the blood-spattered copy of the Peace Song that Rabin sang minutes before his murder. Superimposed over the blown up image were the words: "Now they are shooting at the peace, too."

"We wanted to express our anger at the government in the clearest and most political way," said Meretz's Sadeh. "We didn't want to hide behind meaningless slogans like 'Shalom, haver.' Rabin was killed for political reasons and we wanted to express that fact politically."

Dor Shalem, on the other hand, wanted a rally that would potentially include every Israeli who regretted the assassination and might support the peace process. Yehi-Shalom hopes next week's event will reproduce the spirit of the gathering which preceded Rabin's assassination. At the time, he recalled, he was a student at Bar-Ilan University.

During the rally, he and a group of fellow peace activists held up a sign identifying themselves as Bar-Ilan students. "All of a sudden, other students from Bar-Ilan who were not part of our group began to join us," he said. "One of them was a member of the teaching staff with whom I had had many political arguments. He symbolized for me a large group of people who came to the rally who had not voted for Meretz or Labor. I sensed a special atmosphere at that rally, the beginning of a wave of arousal and activity on behalf of peace. That feeling was created by the silent majority, not the political activists on the margins of society."

In the end, it was Ehud Barak who determined the nature of the evening. He unilaterally decided that a rally would be held on November 8, to be organized by the Coordinating Committee, and asked Peace Now to cancel its own protest and join his. The condition was that there be no anti-government slogans but only signs relating to Rabin's assassination.

Sadeh is certain that Barak's decision to hold an apolitical rally was in keeping with his recently declared intention of distancing himself from Meretz and Peace Now.

"Take a look at this recent photo of demonstrators against Netanyahu in Tel Aviv from Peace Now, Dor Shalem, the Labor Party young guard and Meretz – all together," said Sadeh. "It's hard to believe we'll see another photo like it in the future. Barak's announcement has already had repercussions.

"The movements linked to the Labor Party are dissociating themselves from Meretz's statements and are less and less interested in appearing together with Meretz representatives." According to Janet Aviad of Peace Now, there is no doubt that the coordinated activity of the Left does not compare in effectiveness with the coordination of the right-wing movements.

Yitzhak Frankenthal, the secretary-general of Netivot Shalom and a member of the Peace Movement Coordinating Committee, agrees. He claims there is virtually no cooperation. "All the left-wing groups are more interested in the well-being of their own organizations than in the overall goal," he charged.

FEUD

Continued from Page 9

Sarid, however, disputes the assertion that he is spoiling Barak's calculated act.

"I may be doing just what Barak wants," he said. "You can't rule out the possibility that this is all pretense, that Barak wants to goad us, that he benefits from making it appear that he loathes us.

"Not that I expect Barak to masquerade as Yossi Sarid. But this is a direct disparagement which even I cannot ignore. Though Rabin also sought to deny any association with Meretz when he ran for office, he never produced an abominable direct equation which said that Meretz is synonymous with lack of Jewish roots." But Sarid is not above forgiveness.

"Let's not exaggerate the whole thing. Barak just had a bad day when he talked about our Jewish roots, and atrocious timing, coinciding with Netanyahu's remarks [to Rabbi Yitzhak Kadouri during Succot]. I told him so.

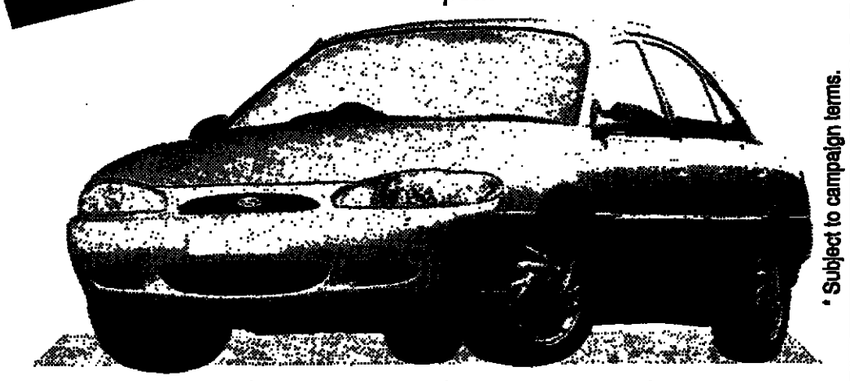
"But we are still flesh of the same flesh. I predict that at the upcoming memorial rally to Rabin you will see us all together on the same platform and Barak and I will embrace as the brothers we are. It isn't as if a ferocious tiger came between us. At most it was a little kitten."

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DWELLINGS
Jerusalem Area

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DWELLINGS
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DWELLINGS
Jerusalem Area

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مكتامن الأصل

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Tel Aviv

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Southern Coast

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BEAUTIFUL VILLA, 5 rooms + extras, garden, partly furnished, Moshav Burgata. Tel. 09-894-7782, 050-246-169. [790178]

HERZLIYA PITUAH, IMMEDIATE, villa, spacious, 5, furnished/unfurnished, garden, private. Tel. 09-955-7930 (NS). [11575]

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HERZLIYA PITUAH, NEW villa, 7 + pool, basement, 800 sq.m. Tel. 09-956-6013.

VILLA, HERZLIYA PITUAH, 250 sq.m. built. Tel. David 03-505-0926, 03-504-0386. [11748]

HERZLIYA PITUAH, BEAUTIFUL villa, 4 bedrooms, + storage + balcony, facing sea. Tel. 09-957-6710, 059-515251. [11597]

HERZLIYA PITUAH, SPACIOUS family style villa, air conditioning, garage, $2200. ANGLO SAXON. Tel. 09-956-2256. [12383]

HERZLIYA PITUAH, FLAT with commanding seaview, 3, furnished, full services and parking. ANGLO SAXON. Tel. 09-956-2256. [12363]

HERZLIYA PITUAH, CENTRAL, quiet, 1st floor, 4 rooms, $1100/monthly. Tel. 09-955-9889. [790056]

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Sharon Area

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HERZLIYA PITUAH, GOLDEN Beach, 2 bedrooms, pool, renovated. ANGLO SAXON. Tel. 09-956-2256. [12364]

HERZLIYA PITUAH, HOUSE, luxurious, pool, great place, attractive price. Tel. 050-338-128, 09-955-2692. [12385]

NETANYA, 4 ROOMS, Nitza Street, full sea view. $290,000. EURO-AMERICAN. Tel. 09-884-2970, 052-573780. [11567]

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DWELLINGS
Haifa and North

SALES

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Modi'in Region

SALES

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No undertaking is given to accept the highest or any bid.
For the owners:
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13 Rehov Shmuel Hanagid, Jerusalem
Tel. 02-623-2084, Fax. 02-625-1177

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Jerusalem

GENERAL

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EXPERIENCED, LEGAL, CAREGIVERS, needed. Live-in/out, recommendations. Chaim Ve Chavod. Tel. 02-622-1422.

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Skills: Fluent Hebrew/English. Computer literate, including word processing, data base and spreadsheet. Competence in grammar and computation.

If you are a team player with the above qualifications, please fax a one-page resume to: 02-652-0801, or mail to Job Search, POB 35209, Jerusalem.

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FOR HI-TECH COMPANY: English secretary, Word + Excel, full time. Fax CV to Tel. 02-624-0964. [11573]

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LIVE-IN WOMAN FOR twins + housework with experience, food conditions. Tel. 050-300-775. [790031]

LIVE-IN FILIPINA GIRL experienced with babies. References. Tel. 03-642-1704. [790028]

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SECRETARY, IN AZUR, Spanish, English, part time - afternoons. Tel. 03-558-4150, 03-559-5560. [11752]

Amal Services and Personnel
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• Mother tongue English, essential
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ENGLISH SECRETARY, HI-TECH co., able to work independently, Q-TEXT/WORD. Fax: 03-691-7117. [12367]

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Sharon Area

GENERAL

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in Herzliya. Some housework. Experience with children and references essential.
Tel. 09-958-2018.

MOTHER'S HELPER, HOUSEWORK, help with week old twins. Kfar Saba. Tel. 09-742-9046. [790061]

AU PAIR, FULL-TIME, TO care for 2 children + housework, live-in. Tel. 09-894-6768. [790060]

EXPERIENCED, FUN-LOVING METAPELET, 1300 - 1800, 4x/week, Ra'anana., good conditions. Tel. 09-771-5751.

MOSHAV KFAR HESS, au pair + live-in, Sunday through Thursday. Tel. 09-796-2911 (H), 03-549-6385 (W). [11596]

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RA'ANANA - ELDERLY LADY, seeks live-in caregiver for month of January. Tel. 09-771-1216. [790034]

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TORA PORTION Noach

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BOW OF VICTORY - English, Sunday service, 5:00 p.m. Hebrew, Saturday service, 5:00 p.m. 22 Ben Yehuda. Tel. 050-273-503.

REDEEMER CHURCH, Lutheran, Muristan Rd. Old City, Jerusalem. Sunday services: English 9:00 a.m. German 10:30 a.m. Tel . 6276111,6281049.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

JERUSALEM BAPTIST CHURCH - The Baptist House Center, #4 Narkis Street, Sunday, 11 a.m. Tel. 02-6255942.

PENTECOSTAL WORSHIP SERVICE, Mt. Zion Fellowship. Fri., Sat., 7.30 p.m., Sun. 10.30 a.m., 7.30 p.m. Tel. 02-582-8964.

JERUSALEM

HEBREW UNION COLLEGE, 13 King David St. Shabbat morning service, 9:30 a.m. Erev Rosh Hashana, Wed., Oct. 1, 6 p.m., Shaharit, Thur., Oct 2, 9:30 a.m. (No second day services).

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

MORESHET YISRAEL — Conservative 4 Agron. Dr. Avraham Feder, Rabbi. Fri., Minha 4:35 p.m., Sat. Shaharit 8:30 a.m., Minha 3:50p.m. Daily Minyan 7:00 a.m.

TEL AVIV-CHRISTIAN

FRIENDSHIP HOUSE (The Redeemed Christian Church of God). Worship Service 10:00 am Saturdays. Bible Study - 7:00 pm Wednesdays. Venue - 30 Levanda Street (3rd floor) Tel Aviv. Tel. 050-946-777.

Immanuel Church,15 Beer Hofman.Tel. 03-6820654. Services: Saturday 11 a.m., Sunday at 10 a.m.

WHERE TO GO

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WHERE TO GO

HEBREW UNIVERSITY. Tours of the Mount Scopus campus in English, daily Sun.-Thur. 11 a.m. from Bronfman Reception Centre, Sherman Administration Bldg. Buses 4a,9,23,26,28. For info, call 882819.

HAIFA

WHAT'S ON IN HAIFA, dial 04-8374253.

WHERE TO GO

JERUSALEM

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Tourists and Visitors. come and see the General Israel Orphans Home for Girls, Jerusalem, its manifold activities, and impressively modern buildings. Free Guided tours weekdays, 9-12.Bus no. 14, 24, Kiryat Moshe.6523291.

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ARTGUIDE

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ART GUIDE

HAIFA

THE REUBEN AND EDITH HECHT MUSEUM. (Haifa University). Permanent exhibition: The People of Israel in Eretz Yisrael - Phoenicians on the Northern Coast of Israel in the Biblical Period - Illness and Healing in Ancient Times. Impressionism and the Jewish School of Paris. Open Sun., Mon., Wed., Thur. 10-4; Tue. 10-7. Fri. 10-1. Sat.10-2 ADMISSION FREE.

ART GUIDE

JERUSALEM

Museums
OLD YISHUV COURT MUSEUM. Life in the Jewish community in the Old city, mid-19th century — World War II. 6 Or Hahaim, Jewish Quarter, Old City. Sun.-Thur. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

ART GUIDE

TEL AVIV

TEL AVIV MUSEUM OF ART. Yehiel Shemi - Retrospective. Kasta Ephraim Marcus, A Retrospective. Valerio Adami: Paintings. The Helene and Zygfryd Wolfach Collection of Modern Sculpture. Yona Lotan: Selected Paintings 1958-1997. Collections.HELEN RUBINSTEIN PAVILION FOR CONTEMPORARY ART. Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tue., 10a.m.-10 p.m. Fri., 10 a.m.-2, p.m., Sat., 10 a.m.-3p.m. Meyerhoff Art Education Center, . Tel. 6919155-8.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

GENERAL ASSISTANCE EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

Friday, October 31
Jerusalem: Kupat Holim Clalit, Straus A, 3 Avigdori, 670-6660; Shuafat, Shuafat Road, 581-0108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 628-2058.
Tel Aviv: Ahva, 165 Dizengoff, 522-4717; Bloch, 32 Bloch, 522-6425.
Ra'anana-Kfar Sava: Bar-Ilan, 29 Bar-Ilan, Ra'anana, 744-3579.
Netanya: Neot Shaked, Ezorim Commercial Center, 835-2484.
Haifa: Hanassi, 33 Hanassi, 833-3312.
Krayot area: Neveh Haim, 77 Moshe Goshen, Kiryat Haim, 872-8002.
Herzliya: Cial Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 955-8472, 956-8407. Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Upper Nazareth: Cial Pharm, Lev Ha'ir Mall, 657-0468. Open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Saturday, November 1
Jerusalem: (day) Jaffa Gate, 628-3898; (evening) Center Pharm, 20 Yad Harutzim, 673-1475; (day and evening) Beisam, Salah e-Din, 627-2315; Shuafat, Shuafat Road, 581-0108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 628-2058.Tel Aviv: Superpharm Gimel, 1 Ahimeir, Ramat Aviv Gimel, 641-7117; Bass, 66 Frishman, 523-7326. Till midnight: Superpharm Ramat Aviv, 40 Einstein, Ramat Aviv, 641-3730; Superpharm London Ministore, 4 Shaul Hamelech, 696-0115.
Ra'anana-Kfar Sava: (day) Medicstore, 24 Tchernichowsky, Kfar Sava, 745-7034; (evening) Merkaz Golan, 198 Ahuza, Ra'anana, 774-5762.
Netanya: Hanassi, 36 Weizmann, 882-3639.
Haifa: Habankim, 5 Habankim, 851-3005.
Krayot area: Kupat Holim Clalit Zevulun, 192 Derech Akko, Kiryat Bialik, 878-7818.
Herzliya: Cial Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 955-8472, 955-8407. Open 10 a.m. to midnight.
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Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center Dana Pediatric Hospital (pediatrics); Tel Aviv Medical Center (internal, surgery).
Netanya: Laniado.

Saturday, November 1
Jerusalem: Hadassah Ein Kerem (internal, surgery, orthopedics, ophthalmology, ENT); Bikur Holim (obstetrics); Shaare Zedek (pediatrics).
Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center Dana Pediatric Hospital (pediatrics); Tel Aviv Medical Center (internal, surgery).
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Israel women's soccer team ready to make history

By AMMANJAH de VRIES

On Sunday Israel's women's national soccer squad will be making history as they kick off their first-ever official international match.

The best eleven woman soccer players in the country will pit their skills against a much more experienced and well-established Romanian side in the first of eight qualifying matches which could lead to a spot in Women's World Cup '99

The road which led to this historic and unprecedented event began in late April of this year. It was then that Israel Football Association decided to build a women's national soccer team. The goal was to get the team into shape before the first world cup qualifying match in early November. That gave the association only seven months.

With this goal in mind tryouts were held in early May and four regional teams were created, the North, the Center, the Sharon, and the South.

After each of these four squads had held biweekly training sessions for nearly four months, matches between them were begun to further determine which lucky women would make it to the final cut for the national side.

After a grueling round-robin style tournament, in which all the women displayed their soccer skills, motivation and team spirit, the final selection was made in late September.

The twenty six best women were invited at the end of September to commence training for the Romanians.

The squad has now been pared down to the final 18 who will take to the field wearing Israel's blue and white on Sunday.

Never before has there been a female Israeli national soccer side, although the 1999 Women's World Cup will be the third tournament of its kind. Sixteen countries will play in the finals, to be held in the US.

In Europe alone, 34 countries are now playing qualifying matches. Israel is in European qualifying group 8, along with Romania, Bosnia, Hungary and Slovakia.

So far the following results have been registered in the group: Hungary 10, Bosnia 0; Romania 4, Bosnia 0, and Romania 1, Slovakia 1.

Romania appear to be the favorite to win the group with Hungary expected to give a good fight.

Israel coach Roni Schneider believes that Sunday's match will be a very tough battle.

"I hope that we will be able to compete with the physical power and the speed of the Romanians," he said. "I have two very quick forwards up front and also a very big, strong half-back."

Also, Israel's star player, Silvi Jamm, has returned from Norway where she plays in the professional women's league, to lend her talent and experience.

The match kicks off at 14:30 in the Bat Yam soccer stadium.

Obziler only local left in Sherman Challenger

By HEATHER CHAIT

Tsippi Obziler is the only blue-and-white representative in the semi-finals of the $25,000 Marjorie Sherman Challenger at the Ramat Hasharon courts today.

Obziler, unseeded in the tournament, defeated the No. 3 seed Petra Rampre from Slovenia 6-7(5), 6-4, 6-4 yesterday.

Top seed Anna Smashnova succumbed in a closely-contested match to Katarina Srebotnik, also from Slovenia.

Smashnova went down in a final-set tiebreak to lose 6-2, 4-6, 7-6(5).

The other players in the semi-finals are fourth seed Petra Gaspar from Hungary who beat Italy's Giulia Casoni 7-6(2), 6-4, and Adriana Sera-Zanetti, also Italian, who squeezed past Germany's Kirstin Freye 6-3, 4-6, 7-6(2).

Obziler will face Sera-Zanetti (10.30 a.m.) and Gaspar will play Srebotnik.

In the doubles, Hila Rosen and Freye have reached final where they will meet Srebotnik and Rampre at 1 p.m. today.

Yesterday the Rosen-Freye duo, the top seeds, beat Casoni and Maja Zivec-Skulj (Germany) 6-2, 6-2.

The singles final begins at 10.30 a.m. tomorrow.

Buoyant after World Cup game, Milosevic faces Zola, Di Matteo

LONDON (AP) – Savo Milosevic likely will have a huge grin on his face when he runs out for Aston Villa tomorrow and greets Chelsea stars Gianfranco Zola and Roberto Di Matteo.

Scorer of Yugoslavia's seventh goal in Budapest Wednesday, he knows he's virtually sure of playing in next summer's World Cup while the two Italians have more work to do against Russia.

By the time Milosevic entered the playoff game against Hungary Wednesday, the Yugoslavs were already 6-0 up and his goal was a simple close range tap in. Yugoslavia won the game 7-1 and now has to avoid a seven-goal defeat in Belgrade.

By contrast, Di Matteo battled through the snow and mud in Moscow to help Italy to a hard-earned 1-1 tie. Zola didn't play, but Italy likely will use his imaginative skills in the second leg in Naples Nov. 15.

One Villa team-mate unlikely to share the Milosevic joy will be Steve Staunton. He was on the Irish team held 1-1 at home by Belgium in another World Cup playoff. That result means the Irish must score and avoid defeat in Brussels in the return leg.

Sasa Curcic, another Yugoslav on the Villa team, may have mixed feelings. No doubt delighted his country is almost sure of playing in the World Cup, he has lost his place on the team after falling out with coach Slobodan Santrac and may not be considered for the team in France.

So far as tomorrow's game is concerned, both teams need a victory to boost morale.

Although Villa fought out a 0-0 draw at Arsenal Sunday, its previous result was a 2-1 home loss to Wimbledon. Chelsea comes off a 1-0 defeat at lowly Bolton.

Those results dropped Chelsea to fifth and Villa to 13th and, although both are healthily placed in European competition next week, the managers of both teams know that league results must improve.

Leader Manchester United, which visits Feyenoord in the Champions Cup Wednesday, has what should be an easy league game tomorrow against next-to-last Sheffield Wednesday. Last weekend, it hosted last place Barnsley and won 7-0.

Arsenal, which surrendered the lead after failing to beat Villa, visits seventh place Derby.

Third place Blackburn will be confident of gaining three points at Barnsley while Leicester, which has climbed to fourth after some impressive performances, hopes to gain another upset win, this time at shaky Newcastle.

Mike Tyson hurt in motorcycle accident

HARTFORD, Conn. (Reuters) – Former heavyweight champion Mike Tyson fractured several ribs and is in a hospital in stable condition after his motorcycle turned over, a Hartford Hospital spokesman said on Wednesday.

The accident occured on a highway exit ramp in Manchester, Connecticut, about 20 minutes from Hartford, near where Tyson has a home.

"He's being admitted for about 48 hours," said James Battaglio, vice president of communications for the hospital.

Battaglio quoted Tyson saying he was only going about 20 miles an hour when his motorcycle hit a patch of sand and turned over.

Tyson, 31, went home for about four hours but returned to the hospital, apparently because of the pain to his ribs, Battaglio said. He said Tyson fractured his "upper ribs on the right side." He said the injuries would have no impact on Tyson's boxing career once they healed.

Tyson lost a bid to regain the heavyweight championship last June when he was disqualified for bitting off a piece of Evander Holyfield's ear in their rematch in Las Vegas.

Tyson was banned from boxing for at least a year and fined $3 million for that incident.

In 1992, Tyson was convicted of raping a beauty pageant contestant in Indianapolis and served three years in prison.

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Derby day for Tel Aviv

By ORI LEWIS

There's only one show in the Big Orange tomorrow, it's the Tel Aviv derby, and for a change, Hapoel are the favorites.

It has been many years since Hapoel were in the prestigious position of not only holding the hegemony of the big city, but also leading the National League.

Tomorrow at Bloomfield, there will be a packed house of 20,000 spectators, most of them sporting the red of Hapoel as the hosts try to make sure they stay masters of Tel Aviv.

Hapoel sit atop the league now in splendid isolation after Hapoel Jerusalem lost for the first time last week. The Tel Avivians have yet to lose a match this season.

Maccabi, on the other hand, won for the first time in the league this season last weekend, when they beat Maccabi Herzliya. That win took them off the bottom of the table, but they are still precariously placed, and another win is vital if the yellow-and-blue revival is to be seen as real.

Betar Jerusalem will be awaiting signs of weakness from Bloomfield with great eagerness. Despite the severe blows of having lost Stefan Saloi and Eli Ohana to injuries, the Jerusalemites have leapt up the table into second place. If Hapoel Tel Aviv lose, Betar are waiting to take over at the top. They travel to Maccabi Herzliya.

This weekend's National League fixtures (all matches tomorrow unless stated):

Hapoel Beersheba v. Hapoel Kfar Sava, Beersheba 14:30; Hapoel Petah Tikva v. Ironi Rishon Lezion, Petah Tikva 14:30; Hapoel Ashkelon v. Hapoel Haifa, Ashkelon, today 14:30; Maccabi Herzliya v. Betar Jerusalem, Herzliya 15:00; Hapoel Tel Aviv v. Maccabi Tel Aviv, Bloomfield 17:45; Hapoel Jerusalem v. Ironi Ashdod, Teddy Stadium 15:00; Maccabi Haifa v. Maccabi Petah Tikva, Kiryat Eliezer 16:00; Bnei Yehuda v. Hapoel Beit She'an, Hatikva Quarter 14:30.

National League

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Dif.	Pts
Hapoel Tel Aviv	8	5	3	-	8	2	6	18
Betar Jerusalem	8	4	4	-	24	11	13	16
Maccabi Haifa	8	4	3	1	15	8	7	15
Hapoel Haifa	8	4	3	1	12	7	5	15
Hapoel Jerusalem	8	4	3	1	11	8	3	15
Hapoel Petah Tikva	8	4	2	2	14	11	3	14
Ironi Ashdod	8	3	3	2	10	11	-1	12
Maci Petah Tikva	8	2	4	2	7	8	-1	10
Ironi Rishon Lezion	8	2	3	3	10	12	-2	9
Hapoel Kfar Sava	8	3	-	5	11	14	-3	9
Hapoel Ashkelon	8	2	2	4	10	16	-6	8
Hapoel Beit She'an	8	2	1	5	7	12	-5	7
Maccabi Tel Aviv	8	1	3	4	10	13	-3	6
Bnei Yehuda	8	1	3	4	7	11	-4	6
Hapoel Beersheba	8	1	3	4	12	20	-8	6
Maccabi Herzliya	8	1	2	5	9	13	-4	5



DON'T MESS WITH THE REFS – Violet Palmer (left) and Dee Kantner. (Reuters)

NBA's first female refs ready to deal with the bad boys

NEW YORK (AP) – Don't mess with Dee Kantner or Violet Palmer.

The NBA's first women referees aren't going to be bullied by bad boys like Dennis Rodman and Charles Barkley.

"We'll treat them just like any other player," Palmer said during a conference call Wednesday night. "Confrontation is part of being a referee. If they cross a line they're not supposed to, they'll get a technical like any other player." With the NBA season starting tonight, Kantner and Palmer will soon become the first women to officiate regular-season games in a major US professional sports league.

The NBA won't say where or when the female refs will make their debuts, although Palmer's parents were reportedly heading to Vancouver, where the Grizzlies play Dallas tonight and Sacramento tomorrow night.

Kantner was surprised by all the attention she and Palmer got after they were hired Tuesday.

"I'm really stunned by the response we're getting," she said. "We just followed a path that was laid out for us." Both women have officiated NBA exhibition games the last two years and worked NBA summer league games the last three years.

They also have refereed women's professional and college games.

"I think Dee and I were selected on our ability," Palmer said. "We didn't have to fight to get to this point. We've been given an opportunity, and we're going to do the job to the best of our ability." Kantner, 37, said she didn't start out to be a trailblazer for women in sports.

"I don't think Violet or I could say this was our intent," she said. "But if one of the after effects is that women are given more opportunities, we're obviously in favor of that."

While some players have expressed reservations about female refs working in an all-male league, Kantner and Palmer said they didn't encounter any major problems during exhibition games.

"I think we've already been accepted," the 33-year-old Palmer said. "The players already know who we are or have heard of us or know something about us."

Rodman, the Chicago Bulls forward known for his outrageous looks and behavior, said female refs have "got to be ready to run with us on the court, get touched and even get a pat on the (behind) every now and then, like male officials."

Kantner said that type of contact wouldn't bother her, as long as it was done in the right spirit.

"That's not something we're going to misinterpret," she said. However, Kantner added that if a player intentionally tries to offend one of the female refs, "we'll handle it accordingly."

Both women said they have given up their non-basketball jobs to become full-time refs. Kantner was a sales engineer in Charlotte, North Carolina, while Palmer was a recreational director in Los Angeles.

SPORTS *in brief*

Bulgarian international Yordanov has MS

LISBON (AP) – Bulgarian international Ivaylo Yordanov yesterday vowed to keep playing soccer despite being diagnosed with multiple sclerosis.

"I'm not going to give in. I'll fight to the end," the 29-year-old player told a news conference at his club Sporting Lisbon.

Yordanov has missed training the past two months but returned to the team Tuesday. His absence was never fully explained by his club, which said only that he was ill.

"I hope I'll be able to play again soon," Yordanov said, adding that he was determined to keep playing as long as he was physically able. Club officials declined to speculate about whether he would be restored to the playing roster.

The disease affects the nervous system and gradually impairs motor control, with symptoms appearing at irregular intervals for years. Although it may result in severe disability, it is seldomly rapidly fatal.

Ski group head threatens Olympic pullout

NAGANO, Japan (Reuters) – The head of international skiing threatened yesterday to pull skiing out of February's Winter Olympics if organizers of the Games go ahead with a plan to ban recreational skiing above a disputed downhill run.

"We may pull out of the Games and have no skiing at all, not even jumping, not even cross country – nothing," International Ski Federation (FIS) President Marc Hodler said after arriving in Nagano for a meeting of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Coordination Council.

Agassi gets wildcard for Australian Open

MELBOURNE (Reuters) – Former world No. 1 Andre Agassi has been granted a wildcard entry into the 1998 Australian Open, tournament organizers said yesterday.

Agassi, who won the Australian Open in 1995, applied for a wildcard because his current world ranking of 140 was too low to get him into the field.

Tournament Director Paul McNamee said Agassi's performance at the recent US Open, where he reached the round of 16, was proof that the American remained a force in the game.

Eric Davis receives Hutch Award

SEATTLE (Reuters) – Baltimore Orioles outfielder Eric Davis, who battled colon cancer and returned to play this season, received his second major award in the last week on Wednesday by being named recipient of the 1997 Hutch Award.

Davis, who has also received the Roberto Clemente Award, batted .304 with eight homers and 25 RBI in 158 at-bats this season. He returned late in the regular season and competed in the post-season despite taking chemotherapy treatment.

The Hutch Award is named after former major league pitcher and manager Fred Hutchinson, who died of cancer in 1964, and honors qualities such as dedication to team, community and family, as well as competitive spirit and the ability to battle through adversity.

Past winners of the Hutch Award include Mickey Mantle, Sandy Koufax, Carl Yastrzemski, Pete Rose, Lou Brock, George Brett and Tony Conigliaro.

Australian cricket cap will stay special

SYDNEY (AP) – Australia's Cricket Board said it would never sell copies of the national team's famous "baggy green cap" despite a push to make more money from official merchandise.

Australia's national sport revealed its financial state publicly for the first time Wednesday and the move revealed income from merchandise was well below potential.

The cap given to players when they are called up for test duty bears the Australian coat of arms and the ACB's marketing manager said it would stay "sacrosanct" along with the team blazer and jumper.

The ACB is in dispute with the country's professionals, who want a larger share of revenue and power.

ACB figures revealed just $490,000 (US) earned from sales of cricket shirts, hats and other items.

Australian Rules football earns $3.5 million a year from merchandise while rugby league and rugby union make about $700,000 each.

The Australian Cricketers' Association, representing the players, believes overall merchandising revenue should be greater, given that $4.8 million is spent on marketing.

ACB marketing manager David Fourvy said there were no plans to sell the cap to the public despite other national teams selling replicas of their outfits.

"Sell the cap? You can't say that, it's sacrosanct," Fourvy yesterday.

"I'm sure plenty of people would want to buy it and it would be worth a fair few dollars to us but everybody knows the only way you can get it is to be one of the 12 players representing Australia in a Test. That's the beauty of the baggy green."

The Australian Rugby Union was criticized for changing its traditional gold Wallaby jersey this year for a new multicolored version in exchange for sponsor dollars.

Dallas beats Washington, extends winning streak

LANDOVER, Maryland (AP) – Benoit Hogue scored his first goal of the season with 17:22 left as the Dallas Stars extended their winning streak to four games with a 4-3 comeback victory over the Washington Capitals on Wednesday night.

Greg Adams had a goal and an assist for the Stars, who trailed 3-1 in the second period before rallying to hand Washington its first home loss. Dallas goaltender Roman Turek blanked the Capitals over the final 38 minutes.

Joe Juneau had a shorthanded goal and an assist for the Capitals, now winless in their last four games (0-3-1).

Washington, playing at home for the first time in 19 days, was 3-0-0 at the USAirways Arena this season.

Senators 5, Lightning 2

In Tampa, Florida, Shawn McEachern had two goals and Ron Tugnutt stopped 23 shots, lifting the Ottawa Senators over the Tampa Bay Lightning.

Tugnutt, who entered game with an NHL-best 1.35 goals-against average, was especially strong in the first period. Tugnutt faced 11 shots, many of them quality scoring chances, and allowed only Paul Ysebaert's 2-on-1 shorthanded goal — his first of two.

The Lightning are winless (0-8-1) in their last nine games, matching the all-time mark set during the 1993-94 season. Tampa Bay has been outscored 35-11 during the current skid and haven't scored a power-play goal goal (0-30) in its last six outings.

Red Wings 4, Sharks 3

In Detroit, Larry Murphy scored the tie-breaking goal 45 seconds into the third period as the Detroit Red Wings ruined goalie Mike Vernon's return to Joe Louis Arena.

Vernon was playing in Detroit for the first time since he earned the Conn Smythe Trophy as playoff MVP while leading the Red Wings to their first Stanley Cup championship in 42 years last spring.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	7	4	1	15	41	31
Philadelphia	7	5	1	15	38	34
New Jersey	6	40	12	38	21	
NY Rangers	3	5	5	11	31	34
NY Islanders	4	5	2	10	31	28
Florida	3	5	3	9	23	33
Tampa Bay	2	9	2	6	23	43
Northeast Division						
Ottawa	7	3	3	17	41	31
Pittsburgh	7	5	2	16	39	35
Boston	7	4	1	15	35	30
Montreal	6	4	2	14	33	25
Carolina	3	7	3	9	31	41
Buffalo	3	7	2	8	28	40

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	10	1	2	22	51	25
St. Louis	10	2	1	21	46	27
Dallas	9	4	1	19	43	31
Phoenix	5	4	2	12	36	31
Toronto	3	6	2	8	24	34
Chicago	3	100	6	19	37	
Pacific Division						
Colorado	7	2	4	18	44	33
Anaheim	4	4	4	12	26	31
Los Angeles	4	5	4	12	41	39
Edmonton	5	6	1	11	26	38
San Jose	4	88	0	31	39	
Vancouver	3	7	2	8	26	35
Calgary	2	8	2	6	31	42

Wednesday's games: NY Islanders 5, Montreal 2; St. Louis 3, Philadelphia 2; Dallas 4, Washington 3; Ottawa 5, Tampa Bay 2; Detroit 4, San Jose 3; Chicago 3, Vancouver 0; Edmonton 3, Phoenix 2.



Becker bids Paris au revoir

Pete Sampras forced Boris Becker to say goodbye to the French capital on Wednesday night for probably the last time in his tennis career, beating him 7-6 3-6 6-3 in the second round of the indoor Paris Open. Sampras said of his rival: 'It's always been tough matches, important matches against him, especially as the French crowd have always been behind him.' Now the season is almost over for Becker, who will for once miss the ATP Tour finals later this month in Hanover. 'I played one of the best matches of my career against him in Hanover last year. He's gonna be missed there,' Sampras said. (Reuters)

'Warn English soccer players about betting'

LONDON (Reuters) – English soccer authorities should launch a campaign to stop players gambling on the game, a British report on betting in soccer found yesterday.

An inquiry found that players were disregarding the present anti-betting rules of the English FA "to a significant extent" but found no evidence of corruption.

"The use of information from 'inside' the professional game when used to gain an advantage, is akin to 'insider trading' and is therefore unfair to others," said Sir John Smith who headed the inquiry.

"Whatever the reasons, widespread betting by players and others in the game is damaging to the integrity of professional football."

Smith called on all officials to play a role in teaching the players the rules.

Dallaglio offers England a fresh start

LONDON (Reuters) — Sitting in a Milan restaurant, an attractive deal including a home and a place at university on the table, Lawrence Dallaglio was once hugely tempted to stay full-time in the land of his father and sign up to play rugby for Italy.

Six years on, the uncertain student has instead graduated to the toughest job in English rugby, picked ahead of British Lions leader Martin Johnson as the man to inspire his country against the best of the southern hemisphere next month.

Italy's loss has unquestionably been Clive Woodward's gain.

The new England coach has been keen to give the national team a fresh invigorating shake for the forthcoming Tests against Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, and in Dallaglio he has picked a man who shares many of his beliefs.

While Johnson is a man-of-few-words captain, Dallaglio is both personable and media-friendly in the way all English captains seemingly have to be since Will Carling popularised the job.

He also has a presence which England team manager Roger Uttley compares to Willie John McBride, the legendary Irish captain of the unbeaten 1974 Lions.

"When he walks into a room you are aware of it. People like him have something in their personalities that makes people prepared to follow them," says Uttley, closely involved in Dallaglio's development at his club Wasps.

"He is respected by his peers, is a great player and is worth his place in the team. He just stands out as a leader of men." After 12 caps for England, the 25-year-old from west London was an automatic choice in the back-row even before Wednesday's announcement.

It has always required something special to impress England supremo Fran Cotton, who made no secret of his support for Johnson in the captaincy race.

But even the Lions manager returned home from the South Africa tour earlier this year a confirmed Dallaglio fan.



BORN LEADER – Lawrence Dallaglio. (Reuters)

"Lawrence was immense," admitted Cotton, who picked him for all three Tests against the Springboks.

"He is now a world-class blind-side and everything about him – his attitude, work-rate and defence was outstanding. He had all the qualities we were looking for." All the plaudits make it seem strange that Dallaglio was ever passed over for the job 12 months ago when Phil de Glanville was given the nod by Jack Rowell.

The then-coach clearly felt it was premature to give the captaincy to a player with less than a year's Test experience, ignoring the fact that Dallaglio has long been mature beyond his years.

A contributory factor was the death of his sister in a pleasure boat disaster on the River Thames when he was just 16.

"She was a tremendously hard-working lady and a successful ballet dancer," he said. "She really led the way for me for years. When she died it gave me a focus. After a while and a terrible two years it made me more determined to be successful." Now living with his girlfriend Alice and baby daughter Ella, Dallaglio has not lost that fierce inner determination.

"I wouldn't say I've been looking for the job, but it is an honor. I enjoy captaincy and I like to think I lead by example, but it's important to have collective responsibility," he said.

"If you look at the best sides historically, they're packed full of people who were able to make decisions under pressure.

"I'm not concerned about a higher profile because rugby is now a career and all players have to accept everything that comes with it.

Dallaglio's promise, spotted by those Italian scouts when he played for England Colts, has been converted into top-level achievement ever since he starred in England's winning side at the World Cup Sevens in 1993.

He has grown in stature each season, despite being thrust into the Wasps captaincy ahead of time when Rob Andrew took Dean Ryan north to Newcastle in 1995.

It is hardly coincidence that Wasps are now the reigning English champions.

"It is the consistency with which he has played that I find amazing," says Uttley. "There is an intensity about his game, the same intensity that New Zealand bring to their game.

"I just hope with the poundings he is giving his body, that he can carry on and steer clear of injuries." The England management will only say that Dallaglio is their man for "the foreseeable future" which could be weeks or decades.

With the professional game shortening many careers, though, the Carling "job for life" era has clearly gone.

"As long as I'm playing well and captaining well, I don't see there's any need to put a timeframe on it," insists Dallaglio.

Rusedski all but clinches spot in ATP finals

PARIS (Reuters) – Greg Rusedski dismissed Czech Bohdan Uhlirach 7-5 6-3 at the $2.5 million Paris Open yesterday to virtually qualify and become the first Briton ever to reach the ATP Tour finals.

"It is nice if I have made it on paper and mathematically.

But I'm still looking to do well here this week and hopefully it is not my first and last time into the finals," said the tournament fourth seed.

ATP Tour officials said the US Open finalist had not yet officially qualified for next month's Hanover event but a win in the quarter-finals against Russia's Yevgeny Kafelnikov would certainly do the trick.

His triumph over Uhlirach made the Canadian-born Briton confident he could go on beating national records and, with compatriot Tim Henman, write a new chapter in the history of British tennis after 20 years of oblivion.

"I have had a few (records) this year, so why not continue," he said.

"I will be the first British player to get into the top 10 in the world and then in the top five then into the finals so it is very satisfying to me," he added.

The fastest server in tennis, Rusedski was in control throughout against Ulihrach, who had impressively beaten Jim Courier and 13th seed Felix Mantilla of Spain in previous rounds.

He added he was now looking forward to meeting former French Open champion Kafelnikov, losing finalist here last year, especially as he has never played in the quarter-finals of a "Super 9" tournament – one the nine most lucrative ATP Tour tournaments.

Sports Editors: Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis

صكذا من الاصل



President Ezer Weizman poses yesterday with pupils celebrating their bar and bat mitzva in Karmiel. (Efraim Kilshtok)

Weizman issues apology

Says he's sorry for saying parts of Bible not worth reading

By HERB KEINON

President Ezer Weizman yesterday remedied the latest case of "foot-in-mouth disease" afflicting the country's public figures, when he apologized less than 24 hours after saying that there are parts of the Bible "not worth reading."

"I am willing to apologize if my words did not sound good," Weizman said in a statement that was broadcast on Israel Radio. "It is not my honor that is at stake, but rather that of the Torah."

Weizman, at an Education Ministry conference Wednesday entitled "The State of Israel – a state of the Jews or a Jewish state?" said, "It is necessary to read the Bible. But sometimes it is not worth reading it all, because there are some things that are not nice, not very nice at all."

Weizman went on to say that Moses, "who in my eyes is the greatest Jewish leader, said a number of things we should be a bit wary of saying. Especially at the end of the poem in Ha'azinu." Ha'azinu is the second-to-last portion of Deuteronomy, and at the end of the poem Moses speaks of the revenge God will extract on Israel's adversaries.

Weizman's words sparked an angry outburst of protest from various religious party leaders who said he should be more sensitive to the feelings of the religious. Shas and United Torah Judaism threatened to support another candidate in next year's presidential election in the Knesset if Weizman did not apologize.

Weizman, who hinted at the conference that he is interested in another term, apologized almost immediately. Following the apology, Shas MK Shlomo Benizri said that from his standpoint the matter is now closed.

Weizman's remarks are the latest in a series of statements made by key public figures that have offended large segments of the population.

Earlier this week Rabbi Ovadia Yosef said essentially that the country's secular courts are not fit for Jews, while last week Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu told Rabbi Yitzhak Kadouri that people on the Left have forgotten what it means to be Jews.

Matza warns of health system collapse

By JUDY SIEGEL

"Responsibility for preventing the total collapse of the public health system lies on the shoulders of the entire government," Health Minister Yehoshua Matza declared yesterday.

Speaking at the scientific conference of the Israel Occupational Therapy Association, Matza said he was "worried about what is liable to happen in the medical system. Preventing its collapse is not just a matter of dispute between the health and finance ministers."

Meanwhile, sanctions by public hospital doctors will continue on Sunday as outpatient clinics and diagnostic institutes shut down.

Matza said he was not making coalition or sectorial demands on the budget.

"The health system doesn't differentiate between one person and another, and the government must put it at the top of its national priorities," he said.

The system is now suffering a NIS 1.3 billion deficit, and the Treasury has so far refused to cover the gap between health tax income and the cost of the basket of health services to which all residents are entitled.

Matza said that in the absence of a real turnabout, the egalitarian health system will come to an end, with two systems developing, one for the rich and one for the poor.

Thousands of non-emergency operations were cancelled yesterday in the country's public general hospitals due to yet another strike by members of the Israel Medical Association.

The IMA announced yesterday that outpatient clinics and diagnostic institutes in all the public hospitals except Netanya's Laniado will be closed on Sunday except for emergencies. These include cardiology, catheterization, radiology, gastroenterology, genetics, ophthalmological electrophysiology, ERG, EEG and EMG units.

The sanctions have been called by the IMA to protest against the Treasury's refusal to implement an agreement adding 1,200 extra hospital beds in pediatric, internal medicine and surgical wards and 360 more doctors' slots during the next few years.

IMA chairman Dr. Yoram Blachar warned that internal medicine departments in some hospitals are already filled to 150% capacity, and that the winter was still ahead.

Mordechai, Albright to meet next week

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai will meet with US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, Defense Secretary William Cohen, and other top officials during his trip to the US next week, defense officials said yesterday. He is not scheduled to meet with President Bill Clinton.

Mordechai departs Sunday night for a four-day working visit. The highlight of the trip will be the hand-over of the first batch of F-15I fighters built at the McDonnell Douglas plant in St. Louis. OC Air Force Maj.-Gen. Eitan Ben-Eliahu will be accompanying him on his trip.

The trip has been planned for many months and comes at a time when Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's office is trying, so far without success, to arrange a meeting between the premier and Clinton.

Defense Ministry Director-General Ilan Biran is already in Washington to make arrangements for Mordechai's visit. Mordechai is taking with him special adviser David Ivry, who ran the Defense Ministry for a decade and has intimate knowledge in the agreements and cooperation arrangements between the two countries.

Also joining Mordechai will be Lt.- IG Boaz, the commander of the team which rescued the remnants of the naval commando force which lost 11 fighters during a September 4 raid into south Lebanon. He has been recommended for a citation for his courage under fire in the rescue operation.

Mordechai's office said that the defense minister will meet with Cohen, central figures in the Congress, and National Security Adviser Sandy Berger. In addition to his meeting with Albright, Mordechai is also scheduled to meet with special envoy to the Middle East Dennis Ross and other senior government officials.

According to defense officials, the talks with Albright will focus on the peace process and the strategic situation in the region, and ways to fight terrorism. Mordechai is also expected to raise the matter of the missile and nuclear threat from Iran.

His visit coincides with the annual strategic dialogue between Israel and the US. Defense officials said that Mordechai hopes to convince the US to deepen strategic cooperation and support the IDF's multi-year modernization plan.

Study: Do your own homework, kids

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

The next time your children ask for help with their homework, tell them to do it themselves; you'll be doing your whole family a favor, a new study says.

According to the study by three researchers from the Szold Institute, homework is the main cause of tension between the family unit and the school system.

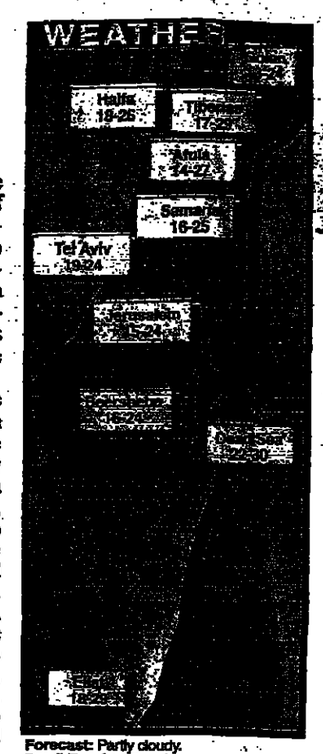
The research, which appeared in an Education Ministry publication issued yesterday, also states that "many psychologists claim that homework should be considered to be the responsibility of the child, and parents should stay in the background, supporting them and maybe occasionally giving them a little bit of assistance."

The study also found that teachers' demands regarding homework are often unclear.

"The same could be said about the stand by parents, who are always saying yes and no simultaneously," the researchers noted.

The researchers said teachers should motivate the pupils and develop responsibility via the homework they give, assign challenging material, and remember that there are alternatives to homework. The aim should be to train the student to learn independently.

"The way the homework situation is today, there is a feeling of discomfort, and a gap between what there is and what there should be," they determined. "A new way of looking at homework could create a model for cooperative contact between teachers, pupils and parents."



Forecast: Partly cloudy.
Possibility of scattered showers.
Shabbat: Partly cloudy.

AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW C	LOW F	HIGH C	HIGH F	
Amsterdam	-05	23	08	46	clear
Berlin	00	32	07	45	cloudy
Buenos Aires	11	52	20	68	clear
Cairo	18	64	27	81	clear
Chicago	03	37	14	57	cloudy
Geneva	-02	28	06	43	cloudy
Hong Kong	21	70	25	77	clear
Johnny	11	52	23	73	pcloudy
Lisbon	11	52	18	66	clear
London	01	34	11	52	pcloudy
Los Angeles	14	57	25	77	clear
Madrid	10	50	22	72	clear
Montreal	02	36	07	45	clear
Moscow	-05	23	00	32	cloudy
New York	08	46	14	57	clear
Nice	07	45	17	63	clear
Paris	00	32	08	46	clear
Rome	12	54	20	68	cloudy
Stockholm	-03	27	09	48	clear
Sydney	17	63	23	73	cloudy
Tokyo	12	54	21	70	clear
Toronto	00	32	12	54	clear
Vienna	-04	25	06	43	clear
Zurich	-05	23	05	41	pcloudy

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Geriatric home residents may get special vaccination

By JUDY SIEGEL

The Health Ministry is considering instructing all geriatric facilities to vaccinate residents with pneumococcal vaccine, which protects against 23 strains of bacteria that cause 85% of pneumococcal infections – including pneumonia – especially in the elderly.

The vaccine has been available around the world for a decade, but only in recent years has it become apparent that vaccinating high-risk populations once in six years is cost effective and can reduce mortality and infection rates among elderly living in institutions.

Prof. Mark Clarfield, head of the ministry's geriatric division, said he and his staff "are currently in the midst of investigating all aspects of this question."

Although individual doctors have been prescribing the NIS 62 vaccine for elderly patients, it is not included in the basket of health services and not given on a widespread basis. This is unlike anti-influenza vaccine, which is now given to the vast majority of high-risk patients, mostly elderly with chronic diseases. They are virtually the same population that could benefit from the pneumococcal vaccine. The increasing resistance of bacteria to antibiotics also makes prevention important.

Clarfield said it is not clear whether the vaccine is cost-effective among individual elderly living at home as well, but that it could be recommended for workers in geriatric institutions as well as patients, so that staffers don't infect elderly residents. It will take a month or so until the ministry finalizes its position, even though the ministry itself recommends giving the vaccine through the end of November.

The leading pneumococcal vaccine, Pneumo 23, is produced by Pasteur Merieux in France and imported by Promedico.

The company recommends it not only for people over 65 and the chronically ill, but also those whose spleen was removed, heavy smokers, and alcoholics – all of whom are at high risk for pneumonia.



Oleg Schwarzburg poses with his medal and the drawing that helped him win the prize. (Bryan McBurney)

'Post' cartoonist places second in international contest

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Jerusalem Post editorial cartoonist Oleg Schwarzburg dropped politics for a subject that equally concerns him at a recent Haifa international cartooning contest, and came away with a silver medal for his efforts.

Turning his eye towards the environment, Schwarzburg, 44, who has been drawing for the *Post* since 1992, took the medal for his overall efforts, but was cited particularly for a drawing showing a man's head made entirely of garbage, reflecting his concerns about the nation's mounting garbage problem.

The contest, held for the third year and sponsored by Haifa Mayor Amram Mitzna, featured four categories: Children, Borders, Neighbors and Nature.

Oleg's contributions to the other categories were all from his repertoire of politically-oriented cartoons, including one for the Children category of David Levy drawn to look like a little boy crying over the lack of respect he was receiving.

For the Nature category, however, Oleg drew a drawing based on the work of a 16th-century Italian artist Giuseppe Arcimboldo, who drew pictures of human heads out of natural motifs. Oleg drew one of a man whose head is made completely out of garbage, including a condom for a nose.

"I took his idea because I am always worried about our future, with all the garbage piling up – and not just in politics," he said this week. "If you drive to Jerusalem from Tel Aviv, you see mountains of garbage higher than the Hermon.

"How can that be in the heart of our country? Our streets are practically closed by all the garbage. We're a very small country, and I'm very concerned about our future."

Breaking from the usual subject of his cartoons was worthwhile, he said. "Drawing cartoons about politics all the time is very stressful."

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The dates: Tues/Wed December 2/3
Tour guide: Arie Salomon

The price: NIS 635, which includes transportation from Tel Aviv and Jerusalem and return, entrance to all the sites, background lectures and on-the-spot explanations. Overnight in a double room at the Ramon Inn. Dinner on the first day, breakfast and lunch on the second. Pick-up and drop-off along the route where possible, if arranged beforehand.

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